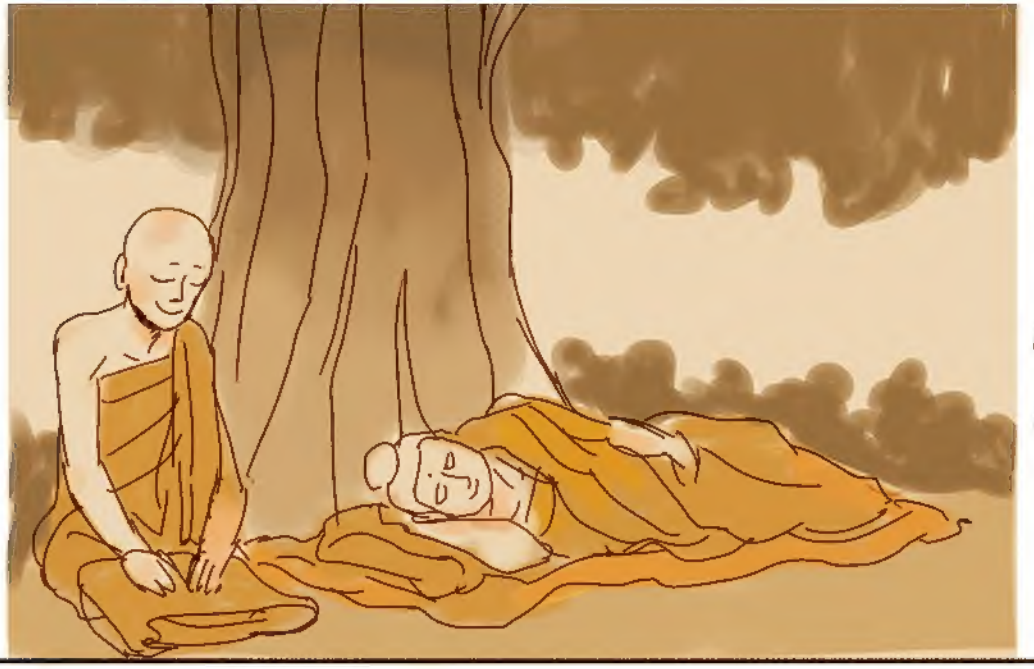
5

Saint☆Young Men

HIKARU NAKAMURA

IRVANA

...HEARD MORE OF THE BUDDHA'S WORDS THAN ANY OTHER, AND SERVED AS HIS PERSONAL ATTENDANT FOR 25 YEARS.



ANANDA, ONE OF THE BUDDHA'S TEN MAIN DISCIPLES ...

BASED ON THE BUILD, I *THINK* THAT'S HIM, BUT...

YEAH... HE'S NOT THE TYPE TO BE LATE...

...AND YOU'RE SURE WE WERE SUPPOSED TO MEET HIM AT 10 O'CLOCK AT THE EAST GATE?

STAAARE...

YET, YET, IT IS SAID THAT OF THE TEN, HE WAS THE LAST TO ATTAIN ENLIGHT-ENMENT, AND ONLY AFTER THE BUDDHA'S DEATH.

IT'S RINGING! I THINK THAT *IS* ANANDA-KUN!

NO...

BEEP BEEP BEEP

...I'LL JUST TRY CALLING HIM.

I DON'T KNOW.

THAT KINDA LOOKS LIKE A MALE MODEL...

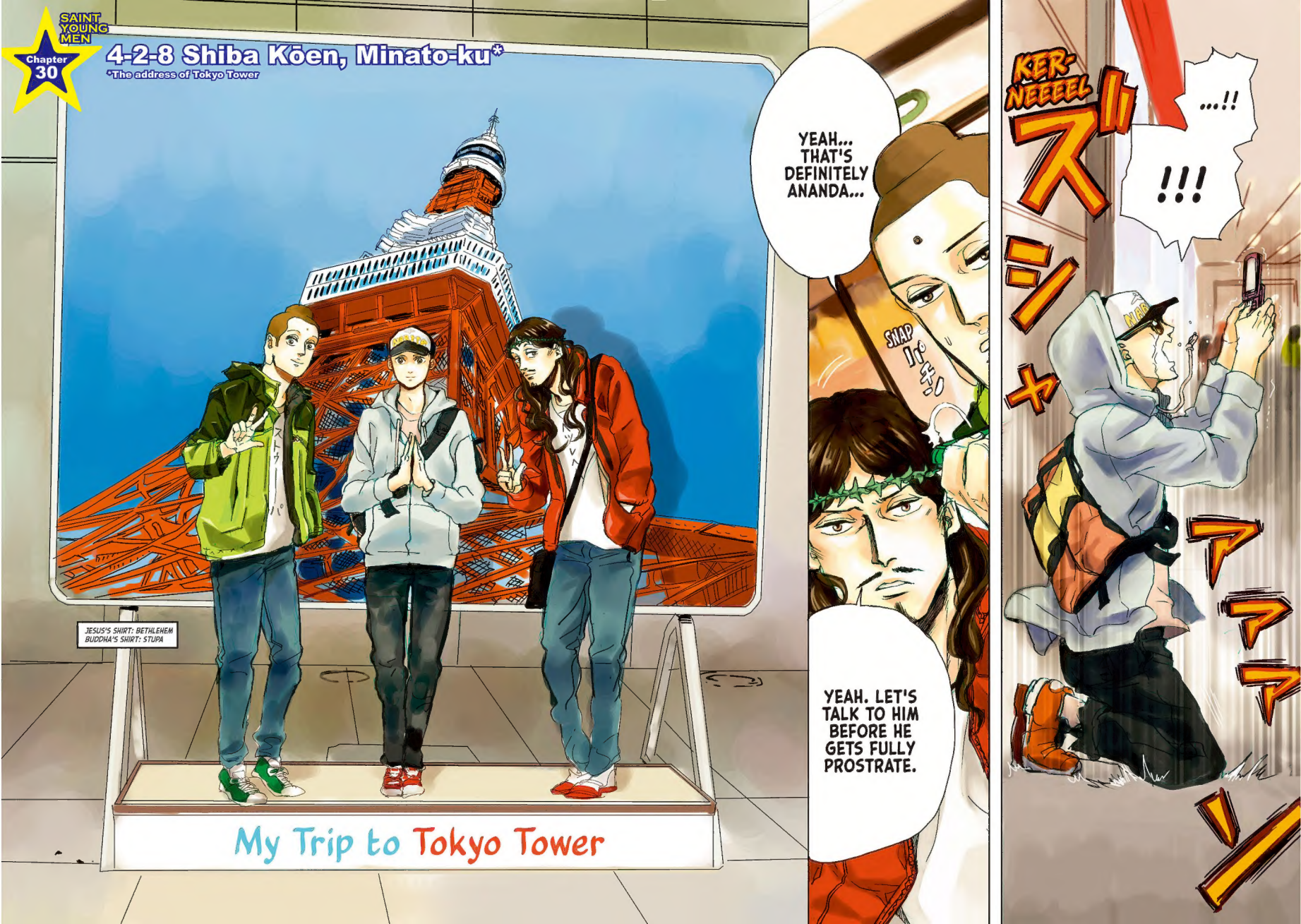
THEY SOUND THE SAME, SO I'M NOT SURE I COULD TELL THEM APART ON THE PHONE...

SNAP

WHAT?! YOU MEAN THE GUY WHO SICCED ELEPHANTS ON YOU?!

I wouldn't put it past him...

WE CAN'T BE SURE YET. IT MIGHT BE HIS BROTHER, DEVADATTA, IN DISGUISE ...


4-2-8 Shiba Kōen, Minato-ku*
*The address of Tokyo Tower
JESUS'S SHIRT: BETHLEHEM
BUDDHA'S SHIRT: STUPA
My Trip to Tokyo Tower
YEAH... THAT'S DEFINITELY ANANDA...
SNAP
パチ
YEAH. LET'S TALK TO HIM BEFORE HE GETS FULLY PROSTRATE.
KER-NEEEEL
スリ
シャ
...!!
!!!
アアアア

STOP IT, ANANDA! THE TACHIKAWA STATION GATE IS NO PLACE TO PROSTRATE YOURSELF!!

IT'S SO GOOD TO SEE YOU AGAIN !!!

KER-FWAM

MAN, THANKS FOR COMING ALL THE WAY FROM THE HEAVENS...

TEP TEP TEP TEP TEP

BUDDHA-SAMA!!

WE GATHERED UP ALL THE THINGS YOU TOLD US TO...

BUT ...

SERIOUSLY, ANANDA. THIS IS GOING TO SAVE OUR FUTURE.

OH, NO. I'M JUST DOING MY JOB. IT'S NO TROUBLE AT ALL.

I'VE BEEN LITERALLY AFRAID TO LOOK AT OUR BANK-BOOK THESE DAYS...

YOU REALLY ARE A LIFE SAVER.

Whew...

IF IT'S WORK-RELATED, YOU CAN WRITE IT OFF AS A HEAVENLY BUSINESS EXPENSE.

I'LL FIGURE IT OUT.

LET'S SEE, FIRST ...

FLIP

WE DID KEEP ALL THE RECEIPTS, INCLUDING FOR FOOD, JUST LIKE YOU TOLD US, BUT...

THOUGH, I THINK THE ONLY WORK-RELATED EXPENSE MIGHT BE THE INCENSE ...?

NO, I JUST WORK IN THE HEAVENS' ACCOUNT-ING DEPART-MENT.

ARE YOU SOME KIND OF ALCHE-MIST?!

...CAN YOU REALLY CHANGE THIS PILE OF RECEIPTS INTO MONEY?

WOW! YOU REALLY ARE A MIRACLE-WORKER, ANANDA!!

NARITA

...WE CAN WRITE OFF ALL THE EGGPLANT AND CUCUMBERS YOU BOUGHT DURING OBON.

IF WE STAY OUT HERE, OUR PRECIOUS RECEIPTS WILL GET BLOWN AWAY.

LET'S WAIT TO DO THIS UNTIL WE GET BACK HOME!

OOOHH...!

AND IT LOOKS LIKE WE CAN DEDUCT THE EGGS YOU BOUGHT AROUND EASTER...

OOOHH... YEAH. YOU DO SEEM TO BE ETERNALLY POPULARITY WITH THE LADIES

IT'S NOTHING, JUST ANOTHER OF MY TRIALS...

OHHH, I SEE. YOU WANTED TO HIDE YOUR FACE...

YOU DO HAVE IT ROUGH.

UNITED ARRO

ITA

WHAT? *YOU*, JESUS-SAMA?

YOU KNOW, I HAVE A FEELING I'M GOING THROUGH A POPULAR PHASE RIGHT NOW, TOO...

IT JUST WOULDN'T BE RIGHT...

NARITA

...TO SEND INNOCENT LADIES TO HELL BECAUSE OF MY CURSED FACE...

YEAH, YOU LOOK SUPER COOL!

ANYWAY, ANANDA, I WAS REALLY SURPRISED TO SEE YOU IN SUNGLASSES ...

OH! I'M SO SORRY! I BOUGHT THESE AT THE AIRPORT!

YOUR BLESSED FACE...

...WOULD NEVER BE VISITED BY SUCH A TRIAL!

YOU NEED NOT CONCERN YOUR-SELF.

NARITA

UM...YOU KNOW, ANANDA...

INDEED! YOU HAVE NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT.

...WHAT?

SO, YOU MEAN...?

ANANDA REALLY MEANT NO OFFENSE.

IT'S CURSED! DON'T WORRY, JESUS, YOUR FACE IS CURSED!

OF COURSE NOT! HIS FACE IS BLESSED BY THE WHOLE WORLD. IT COULD NOT POSSIBLY PLANT IMPURE THOUGHTS IN LADIES' HEARTS.

I THINK JESUS'S FACE IS PRETTY CURSED, TOO...

BUDDHA: DOESN'T KNOW THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A SUNDAE AND A PARFAIT.

...IS THE HOLY MATSUDA HEIGHTS!!

SO, THIS...

JESUS: KNOWS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN MACARON AND HOKARON HEAT PACKS.

HERE, I'LL TAKE YOUR BAG...

WAIT! NO PROSTRATION WILL BE NECESSARY!

GRAB 力!!

OOHH!

IT'S A LITTLE SMALL, BUT IT'S A NICE PLACE.

ANANDA: BUDDHA'S BELOVED DISCIPLE. HAS LEARNED THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE COMEDY DUOS FRUIT PUNCH AND SHIZZLE.

THE REST CAME FROM THE CITIZENS,

OUT OF THE GOOD-NESS OF THEIR HEARTS!

CRAM

LOAN

Karaoke Plaza

CAP

Are you staying the night?

WHOA! WHAT'S THIS?! YOUR BAG IS STUFFED TO THE GILLS!

WELL, I ONLY BROUGHT WRITING IMPLEMENTS AND A BOWL.

ANANDA-KUN! YOUR DESK IS READY!

OH, REALLY?

ANANDA, THESE AREN'T ALMS. YOU DON'T HAVE TO TAKE ANY NEXT TIME!

THE PEOPLE OF THIS TOWN ARE ALL SO VIRTUOUS!

THEN LET'S GET RIGHT TO IT...

FWAM

PARDON ME.

PLOP

...

MY DISCIPLES WOULD BE THROWING OUT JOKES LIKE IT WAS A CONTEST.

THESE ARE THE PEOPLE WHO DIDN'T REACT AT ALL WHEN MY HAIR SUDDENLY WENT CURLY ...

...IS HE DOING THAT ON PURPOSE ...?

I'LL BE BORROWING HALF OF THIS TABLE, IF YOU DON'T MIND.

SCRITCH

SCRITCH

SCRITCH

SCRITCH

HE WANTED TO GO TO TOKYO TOWER, AND I'M HOPING WE'LL HAVE TIME TO TAKE HIM.

YEAH. HE'LL FINISH WORKING SOONER IF WE'RE QUIET.

OH, OOPS. I GUESS TALKING COULD MESS UP HIS CONCEN-TRATION.

OF COURSE NOT. YOU CAN'T EXPECT THAT KIND OF BANTER FROM MY DISCIPLES!

THAT WILL DEFINITELY HELP ANANDA CONCEN-TRATE.

IN THE MEANTIME, I'M GOING TO TAKE A NAP.

ROLL ゴロン

NICE! BUDDHA'S SWITCHED TO SILENT MODE.

FIDGET ソワ

FIDGET ソワ

FIDGET ソワ

FIDGET ソワ

PAT ポン

...!

ZZZ

FIDGET ソワ

FIDGET ソワ

BUDDHA, YOU'RE ACTUALLY *RUINING* HIS CONCENTRA-TION, SO MAYBE LET'S NOT NAP RIGHT NOW!

Whew

HE'S ALIVE...!

HMMM, THAT'S WAY DIFFERENT THAN MY DISCIPLES...

THERE, THERE...

BUT ...

I'M SOR-RY.

UGH, ARE YOU STILL TRAUMATIZED BY THE TIME I PASSED INTO NIRVANA?

I THOUGHT YOU'VE BECOME ENLIGHTENED SINCE THEN!

GOOD IDEA... LET'S GET THIS TAKEN CARE OF.

Y-YOU'RE TOO KIND!!

Waah!

THEN YOU WON'T GET SCARED, RIGHT?

WE'LL HELP YOU WORK.

WHAT A RELIEF... THAT WILL LAST US UNTIL NEXT YEAR!

WHOA, THAT MUCH?!

THIS SHOULD GET YOU A REFUND OF ABOUT 100 THOUSAND YEN*!

*ABOUT $1,000

TWO HOURS LATER ...

ALLLL RIGHT, WE'RE DONE!!

WH...

WHAT? WE'RE REALLY GOING TO TOKYO TOWER?

OKAY, THEN ARE YOU READY TO GO, ANANDA?!

ACTUALLY, WE'VE NEVER BEEN THERE, EITHER.

AND SO RED!

WHOOOAA, IT'S SO TALL!!

I DUNNO. I ACTUALLY THINK IT'S A LITTLE GARISH.

HMMM ...

THIS IS AWESOME! A REALLY AUTHENTIC TOKYO EXPERIENCE!

BUT IT'S JUST BONES, NAILS, AND HAIR, RIGHT?

INSIDE?

MURMUR MURMUR MURMUR

I MEAN, ANANDA, ARE YOU SURE THIS IS WHAT YOU WANTED TO SEE?

Sigh...

WHAT...? I MEAN...

WHY ARE YOU BEING SO RUDE?!

WAIT... YOU...

MURMUR MURMUR MURMUR

THERE ARE ALL KINDS OF THINGS INSIDE...

...COME ON, THAT'S NOT TRUE...

THERE'S REALLY NOTHING ALL THAT INTERESTING HERE, THOUGH...

OF COURSE! I'M DEEPLY MOVED!

Hmmm...

LIKE, ONE OF MINE...

THIS IS JUST A GRAVE, RIGHT?

スイート 10

...AND *TŌ* IS THE ABBREVIATION FOR "STUPA," RIGHT?

I MEAN, "TOWER" IS JUST THE ENGLISH WORD FOR *TŌ*...

UNTIL VERY RECENTLY, TŌ WAS A JAPANESE WORD THAT APPLIED ONLY TO BUDDHIST ARCHITECTURE.

WAIT... IT'S NOT?!

ON ON ON

I'M VERY SORRY! HE SOMETIMES GETS STUCK IN HIS "HOLY AM I ALONE IN HEAVEN AND EARTH" MODE!

SO I THOUGHT IT WAS AT LEAST A BUDDHIST STRUCTURE ...!!

BUT THEY CALL IT A *TŌ*...

BLUUSH!

NARITA

TH-THAT'S VERY MISLEAD-ING!!

SO YOU THOUGHT YOU'D EVEN TAKEN OVER PARIS, CITY OF LIGHTS?

AND NEITHER IS TOWER RECORDS ...?

How embarrassing!!!

THEN THE EIFFEL TOWER WASN'T ONE OF MY RESTING PLACES, EITHER?!

HE'S RIGHT, ANANDA.

WHAT? HA HA, NO WAY!

OH! THEN DON'T TELL ME THAT PINK FELLOW OVER THERE IS THE GOD OF THIS PLACE?!

NO, BUDDHA, IT'S NOT. WHAT'S UP WITH YOU?

Oh...

THAT'S PROBABLY THE GOD'S EMANA-TION...

WOW, YOU'RE RIGHT!

IT HAS ABSOLUTELY NO CON-NECTION TO YOU GUYS.

LOOK, THERE'S EVEN A SHINTO SHRINE AT THE TOP.

NARITA

Tokyo Tower

HMMM. "THE BEST VIEW OF TOKYO, FROM 145 M ABOVE THE GROUND."

I SEE. SO IT'S AN OBSERVATION DECK.

SLIGHTLY HIGHER ...?

WELL, SINCE WE'RE ALREADY HERE, LET'S GET A LOOK AT TOKYO FROM A SLIGHTLY HIGHER ANGLE.

Tokyo Tower

...?!

MMM, THE SIMPLE PLEASURES ...!

WELL, IT WILL BE A NEW EXPERIENCE, SEEING IT FROM A LOWER HEIGHT.

WELL, THEY CAN'T HELP IT IF THEY CAN'T REACH THE KIND OF HEIGHTS WE'RE USED TO.

THE FLOOR IS GLASS HERE.

YOU WANNA TRY IT, TOO, MISTER?

HUH?

WHAT'S THE MATTER ?!

OOOHH!

WE... WE'VE REACHED THE MAIN DECK!

WOW! 360 DEGREES OF WINDOWS!

WHY? THIS ANGLE JUST REMINDS ME OF HOME...

MOST NORMAL PEOPLE WOULD BE A *LITTLE* SCARED.

HUH?

OH, YOU'RE RIGHT...

DON'T CRY, DUDE!

WHOA! THIS GUY'S AMAZING !!

AAAHH, THAT'S SCARY !!

WHAT? A SCREAM?!

WHAT? WHY IS HE *SAD?!*

I WONDER HOW MOM IS DOING...

?!

WHAT'S WRONG, JESUS? ARE YOU BEING PER-SECUTED?!

WEEP

WEEP

You do have a beard!!

HUH? WAIT, ARE YOU THE GUY FROM THAT MOVIE ABOUT THE GUY AND TOKYO TOWER AND HIS MOM?!

I REGRET THAT, AND I DON'T WANT YOU TO GO THROUGH WHAT I DID...

YOU KNOW WHAT THEY ALWAYS SAY. "BY THE TIME YOU'RE READY TO BE A GOOD SON...

WHAT? NO, I WAS JUST KIDDING. WE DON'T NEED TO DO THAT...

...JESUS. MAYBE WE SHOULD GO HOME FOR A VISIT.

IT'S OKAY. YOU DON'T HAVE TO PRETEND.

BEFORE I PASSED ON, I'D BEEN WANTING TO GO HOME FOR A LONG TIME, BUT I PUT THOSE FEELINGS ASIDE.

AND...

N-NO. I JUST SUDDENLY GOT HOME-SICK FOR THE HEAVENS...

...I REALIZED I TALK WITH MY DISCIPLES OVER THE INTERNET AND ON THE PHONE,

BUT I NEVER GET TO SEE THEM IN PERSON...

SEEING YOU AND ANANDA-KUN TO-GETHER...

THANK YOU FOR THOSE DISCOURAGING WORDS OF ENCOURAGE-MENT, BUDDHA...

...YOUR LAND WILL BE LONG GONE."

THEN DO YOU WANT TO AT LEAST GO TO THE SPECIAL OBSERVATORY ON THE TOP DECK?

HMMM...

OH?

BECAUSE IF MY FATHER'S KINGDOM IS DESTROYED, IT WILL ALSO BE THE END OF THE WORLD.

B-BUT I DON'T THINK I NEED TO WORRY ABOUT THAT.

REALLY? I GUESS THAT'S TRUE.

I'M A GROWN SAINT, AFTER ALL...

...I CAN GET OVER A LITTLE HOMESICK-NESS!

IF YOU WANT, I CAN TAKE A MESSAGE TO YOUR MOTHER FOR YOU.

I HOPE THIS WILL CHEER YOU UP!

Now leaving for the top deck!

THANKS ...

BUT I REALLY AM FEELING BETTER NOW!

I WOULD LIKE TO GO, BUDDHA-SAMA!

I MEAN, AT 250 METERS ABOVE THE EARTH'S SURFACE, WE MIGHT JUST BARELY BE ABLE TO SEE *ALL* THE WAY "UPSTAIRS."

AWW... YOU GUYS...

WE WILL BE ARRIVING AT THE SPECIAL OBSERVATORY ON THE TOP DECK IN JUST A FEW MOMENTS.

...OH ...?

DING

DING

HOMESICK-NESS CAN HAPPEN TO PEOPLE BEFORE THEY BECOME ENLIGHTENED ...

DIING

WE HAVE REACHED... THE UP-PERMOST DECK...?

No, no, no... You're going too fast!!

UH... RIGHT. PLEASE EXCUSE ME!

WELL, ANANDA, SINCE WE'RE HERE...

SO, UM... WILL ANY-ONE BE GETTING OFF...?

WELL, AT LEAST WE SAVED ON ANANDA'S TRAVEL EXPENSES.

WE ALMOST TURNED THE ELEVATOR INTO A WEAPON OF MASS DESTRUC-TION...

MAN, THAT WAS SCARY...

YOU CAN'T! THIS IS NO PLACE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE WHO STILL HAVE A FUTURE!

WHAT? THEN WE WANNA GET OFF, TOO!

MOM'S LAUNDRY WAS HANGING OUT TO DRY...

...BUT ACTUALLY, WHEN I LOOKED THROUGH THE ELEVATOR DOORS, I SAW SOMETHING.

YEAH...I'M SURE. I DID THINK ABOUT GOING TO SEE MY MOM...

YOU COULD HAVE GOTTEN OFF "UPSTAIRS," TOO...

BUT... ARE YOU SURE?

...A *LOT* MORE...

I ♥ L.A

TOUR EIFFEL

札幌

...AND SHE HAD MORE OF THOSE TOURIST SHIRTS THAN LAST TIME...

Tokyo Banana

...A REQUEST FOR MORE SOUVENIRS.

I SEE...

EVEN WITHOUT THEIR SON, PARENTS CAN GET BY JUST FINE.

MAYBE IT'S A MESSAGE FROM YOUR FATHER TO CHEER YOU UP.

NO, THAT'S...

I...I SEE...

SO I THINK IT WILL BE OKAY.

SHE SEEMS TO BE DOING FINE WITH-OUT ME...

OH! LOOK, JESUS! IT'S A RAIN-BOW!

...

SHE EVEN HAD SOME CONCERT T-SHIRTS...

He does draw the line somewhere.

CHAPTER 30 TRANSLATION NOTES

Stupa,
A stupa is a mound-like structure created as a memorial to the Buddha or other important figures in Asian religious tradition, which often contain their relics or remains. After his death, Gautama Buddha was cremated and his remains were buried in eight different stupas. These remains were recovered by Emperor Ashoka and redistributed into thousands of stupas all over the world.

Jesus's face,
When prophesying about the coming Messiah's earthly ministry, the Old Testament prophet Isaiah states, "he hath no form nor comeliness [attractiveness]; and when we shall see him, there is no beauty that we should desire him." (Isaiah 53:2)

The townspeople's show of affection,
Busier neighborhoods in Tokyo will often have salespeople handing out packets of tissues with advertisements on them to promote local businesses.

Tower, tō, and stupa,
In Japanese, the word used for "tower" in Tokyo Tower is a phoetically rendered English term native to Japanese (*wasei-eigo*). The English word then shares a common pronounciation with the Japanese word for stupa, *sotoba*, which have over the course of their history come to resemble towers. The character of "to" as well is present in other words referring to buildings not associated with Buddhism.

Paris, City of Lights,
One of the nicknames for Paris is "City of Lights," because it was one of the first cities to have electricity. However, that is not the nickname Jesus actually used in the original text. In Japan, Paris is often referred to as the "city of flowers," because it is so *hanayaka*. *Hana* means "flower," and the word *hanayaka* (flower-like) is used to describe things that are brilliantly beautiful.

The god of this place,
The "pink personage" in question is actually one of the Noppon Brothers, the twin mascots of Tokyo Tower. The Shinto shrine in Tokyo Tower, Tower Daijingu, is dedicated to the sun goddess in Japanese mythology, Amaterasu. Shinto shrines and Buddhist sacred spaces have a long shared history in Japan, but were separated by government edict during the reforms of the late 19th century.

The guy from the movie,
In the original Japanese, this young man asks, "Are you Lily Franky?!" Lily Franky is the author of an autobiographical novel called *Tokyo Tower: Mom and Me, and Sometimes Dad*, about an irresponsible man who reorganizes his life when he must take care of his cancer-stricken mother. The book was made into a movie in 2007.

Your nation is long gone,
The more commonly known version of this expression in Japanese translates to, "By the time you're ready to be a good son, your parents are long gone."

Discouraging words of encouragement,
A more literal translation of this line is, "Thank you for those lead-like words of gold, Buddha." "Words of gold" is a Japanese metaphor referring to a maxim, proverb, aphorism, or other such pieces of good advice. More specifically, "words of gold" also refers to the valuable teachings spoken by Buddha.

Tokyo Banana and Hato Sablé,
These are popular souvenirs from Japan, where many culinary souvenirs are specific to a place. Tokyo Bananas are miniature sponge cakes filled with banana custard cream and shaped like bananas. Hato Sablé are shortbread cookies (or *sablé* in French) shaped like doves (*hato* in Japanese) that can be found in the city of Kamakura.

SAINT☆YOUNG MEN

HE THEN BID FAREWELL TO KANTHAKA AT THE BANK OF A RIVER, AND FOR 45 YEARS THEREAFTER...

WHEN BUDDHA RENOUNCED THE WORLD, HE ESCAPED THE CASTLE IN WHICH HE WAS RAISED ATOP HIS BELOVED STEED, KANTHAKA.

WE WILL PROCEED LIKE THE HORN OF A RHINOC-EROS.

SLOW AND STEADY.

SKFF スタ

SKFF スタ

SKFF スタ

JESUS...

...CONTINUED THE JOURNEY TO SPREAD TEACHINGS ON HIS OWN TWO FEET.

EXCUSE ME, SEI-SAN! WHAT IS TAKING SO LONG?!

THEY'RE JUST ABOUT SOLD OUT!

YES, HELLO ?

BRRRING

BUT WE MUSTN'T RUSH—NO RUNNING, JUST SPEED WALKING.

ACCORD-ING TO THE TEXT WE RECEIVED FROM SHIZUKO-SAN,

THEY'RE SELLING CABBAGE FOR 90 YEN A HEAD, AND SALAD DRESSING FOR 298 YEN A BOTTLE.

THIS IS A FLASH SALE WE CAN'T AFFORD TO MISS!

THEN THE STREETS OF TACHI-KAWA...

WHEN *YOU* TRY TOO HARD TO GET SOME-WHERE IN A HURRY,

GAH, THERE! YOU SEE?!

YOU DON'T SOUND LIKE YOU'RE RUNNING! SO START RUNNING!

I'M SORRY!

W-WE'RE ALMOST THERE...

SKFF

SKFF

NO, BUDDHA, STAY AT THAT PACE!

LOOKS TO ME LIKE A BUNCH OF PUSHY CAB DRIVERS VYING FOR CUSTOMERS AT SOME TOURIST TRAP...

THEY INSTANTLY TRANSFORM INTO RURAL MOUNTAIN PATHS!

POING ピョコ

STARE じっ…

STARE じっ…

SAINT YOUNG MEN

Chapter 31

Ride Like the Tachikawa Wind!

HERE, BUDDHA! THIS ONE'S FOR YOU!

Flash Sale
8:00~

YOU NEED TO PICK UP THE PACE—THIS IS NO TIME FOR LOLLEY-GAGGING!

YEAH, SORT OF. I HAVE RIDDEN ONE BEFORE...

CAN YOU RIDE A BIKE, JESUS?

IF YOU REALLY CAN'T RUN, THEN AT LEAST GET A BICYCLE.

SH...SHI-ZUKO-SAN, YOU'RE SO KIND AND MERCIFUL!!

YES, THAT'S RIGHT.

I CAN REALLY RIDE *ALL* OF THESE WITHOUT A LICENSE?!

OH... THOSE? YEAH, THOSE *WOULD* NEED A LICENSE.

OH, WAIT. YOU *DO* NEED A LICENSE FOR THOSE.

cycle

WHA ... WHAAAAT?!

YEAH, A BICYCLE WOULD BE A DREAM COME TRUE...

BUT I DON'T HAVE A LICENSE, SO I CAN'T GO OUT ON THE MAIN STREETS...

...WHAT.

Aiko can ride one!

Looks like you'd feel the g-force on this...

OH, WELL, YEAH, EVEN *I* WOULDN'T HAVE THE GUTS TO RIDE *THAT* ONE.

ESPECIALLY, LIKE, THIS ONE. THIS IS NOT A MACHINE YOU COULD OPERATE WITHOUT SOME KIND OF SPECIAL TRAINING.

SO WE'D LIKE ONE WITH A BASKET.

WELL, WE WANT IT TO HELP WITH GROCERY SHOPPING...

WHAT KIND OF A BICYCLE ARE YOU BOYS LOOKING FOR?

WHAT?! A SACK OF RICE?!

EASY-PEASY Mama's New Assistant!!

MA

• Pedel

EVEN WITH A SACK OF RICE IN THE BASKET.

IT'S SO HIGH-TECH THAT IT WILL GLIDE RIGHT UPHILL

WHOA, IT SAYS WE WOULDN'T HAVE TO STAND UP TO PEDAL...

THAT'S AMAZING. IF I'D HAD ONE OF THESE...

WOW, AND THERE'S THAT ONE HILL ... THE REALLY STEEP ONE BETWEEN HERE AND OUR APART-MENT.

OH! IT'S JUST LIKE SHIZUKO-SAN'S.

WELL, YOU KNOW, THESE DAYS, WE HAVE THESE PEDAL ELECTRIC CYCLES.

THIS MODEL IS RECHARGE-ABLE.

IS THAT REALLY THE KIND OF PLACE WHERE YOU'D WANT TO TAKE LEISURELY BIKE RIDE?

Piece of cake!

...AND GLIDED RIGHT UP THE HILL TO GOLGOTHA ...

...I COULD HAVE PUT MY CROSS IN THE BASKET ...

I LIKE ITS SIMPLICITY! LET'S TAKE IT!

OOOHH! SEVEN THOUSAND YEN!!

CLANK

STYLISH ¥7,120

I'M SURE YOU'D LIKE TO SAVE SOME MONEY.

OH, BUT YOU'RE YOUNG, SO YOU SHOULD GO WITH ONE OF THESE!

JESUS. I'M NOT SAYING THIS FOR OUR SAKE.

YEAH, BUT...

IF SOMEONE STEALS OUR BICYCLE...

I THOUGHT YOU'D BE ALL, "OH, WE WON'T NEED ONE. I TRUST PEOPLE."

THAT'S NOT LIKE YOU, BUDDHA ...

...MARA CAN SNEAK INTO ANYONE'S HEART...

A LOCK, EH...? WE'RE GONNA WANT TO BUY ONE OF THE BETTER BRANDS ...

WHAT?!

LOCKS AND SUCH ARE SOLD SEPA-RATELY— YOU CAN FIND THEM OVER HERE.

...FROM URIEL-KUN AND ASURA-KUN! I'D LIKE TO AVOID THAT!

...THEY'LL HAVE TO FACE TAG-TEAM RETRIBU-TION...

...THEY COULD BE SENT TO THE LOWEST LEVEL OF HELL A BICYCLE THIEF CAN GO.

AND THEN...

THERE'S ALSO THE HELL OF ETERNALLY RE-THREADING AN OILY CHAIN BARE-HANDED.

GOOD POINT! LET'S BUY THE TOUGHEST LOCK THEY HAVE!

KRRRRGGHH

THE HELL OF FOREVER GOING DOWNHILL ON A BIKE WHILE APPLYING BRAKES THAT HAVEN'T BEEN OILED!

BUDDHA: WAS STARTLED WHEN HE SAW A GIANT FLOCK OF SPARROWS.

YESSS... THIS WILL BE MY MAIN STREET BICYCLE DEBUT!

YES, WE HAVE THE BEST IN PRIVATE SECURITY SYSTEMS, SO...

AND WE HAVE NO I.D....

ARE YOU SURE YOU DON'T WANT TO REGISTER YOUR BIKE?

JESUS: WAS STARTLED WHEN HE SAW A GIANT FLOCK OF CUCKOOS.

I'LL BE FINE!

WHAT? NOW? WILL YOU BE OKAY?!

MIND IF I GIVE IT A TEST RIDE, BUDDHA?!

SHIZUKO: WIFE OF THEIR YAKUZA FRIEND. ONCE SAW A FLOCK OF YAKUZA, BUT WAS NOT STARTLED.

NERVES

WOBBLE

NERVES

WOBBLE

WOBBLE

OUT OF THE WAY, OUT OF THE WAY!!

AH!!

HA-HONK!

MAYBE YOU SHOULD START WITH PRACTICING IN OUR HOME PARKING LOT...

BUDDHA ...

KREE

WOBBLE

WOBBLE

A-ARE YOU OKAY?

NO, I DON'T DOUBT THAT, BUT...

I'M PRETTY SURE I WON'T GET MOTION SICK...

SWAY

SWAY

WELL, HE MIGHT GET SICK IF HE KEEPS RIDING IT LIKE THAT...

WHAT?! WHAT ABOUT ANY OF THAT WOULD MAKE ME WANT TO RIDE WITH YOU?!

BAM

GET ON!

...AND DEMANDS I REACH NEW HEIGHTS OF SPEED!

ぐぅ WOOZ

THE WIND WHISPERS TO ME...

ぐぅ WOOZ

YOU LOOKED LIKE A SUMMER INSECT THAT SOMEHOW MANAGED TO SURVIVE TO AUTUMN.

KLOP-A-KLOP

HUH?

DASH

COME BACK, JESUS, IT'S NOT SAFE...

SHIRT: ANOMA RIVER

GASP

I APPRECI-ATE THE THOUGHT, BUT I CAN'T...

WAIT... IS THAT...

BRRRAY!!

WHOA, KAN-THAKA?!

DID YOU COME HERE TO HELP ME GO AFTER JESUS?!

AND LITTLE LAMBS THAT CAN'T KEEP UP GET LEFT BEHIND!!

IT SAYS... "I WILL SHOW YOU A SIDE OF TACHIKAWA YOU'VE NEVER SEEN BEFORE."

WHOOOOOSH

YOU'RE THE ONE THAT LOOKS LIKE A NEWBORN LAMB, JESUS!!

AND A 7-SPEED SHIFTER ?!!

A BASKET ...

TREMBLE TREMBLE

I MEAN IT! WON'T YOU PLEASE BELIEVE ME?!

THERE'S PLENTY TO LOVE ABOUT YOU, JUST THE WAY YOU ARE.

IT...IT'S NOT WHAT YOU THINK... THE BICYCLE IS JUST...

IT'S A SHORT TERM RELATION-SHIP—FOR WHILE I'M HERE ON EARTH.

Cycle Shop

STARE

BRRRAY

THIS IS THE SIDE OF TACHIKAWA I'VE NEVER SEEN...?

HEH...

I MUST KNOW ONE LAST THING...

NOW TELL ME, WIND...

IT'S MAGNIF-ICENT ...

TWO HOURS LATER ...

SHOOOSH

YOU GAVE ME THE COURAGE TO RENOUNCE THE WORLD ...

...I COULD NEVER ABANDON YOU!!

HUG

HA HA HA. YOU HAVE YOUR WORK CUT OUT FOR YOU, SON.

...TO THE TACHIKAWA I *DO* KNOW?

HOW CAN I GET BACK...

WHAT DO I DO? I HAVE MY CROWN OF THORNS GPS SYSTEM...

AND I LEFT MY WALLET AND MY PHONE AND EVERYTHING!

I'M COLD! AND IT'S DARK NOW!

JOLT

OH, WOW! MY ANGELS ALREADY FOUND ME...?

...EXCUSE ME.

I'LL JUST HAVE TO WAIT FOR THE ANGELS TO SEE THE GPS, FIGURE OUT I'M LOST, AND COME FIND ME...

PAT

PAT

!

ARE YOU THE EVIL BEAST THAT KIDNAPPED JESUS-SAMA?!

...SO I COULD CALL URIEL...

FWOOM

NO, I CAN'T. THE BICYCLE WOULD BE INCINERATED ON THE SPOT!

THAT BICYCLE DOESN'T HAVE A REGIS-TRATION STICKER...

CARE TO EXPLAIN?

I REALLY DID JUST FORGET MY WALLET AND EVERYTHING WHEN I LEFT...

P-PLEASE, YOU HAVE TO BELIEVE ME!

DO YOU HAVE ANY IDENTIFICATION?

WHAT WAS YOUR NAME AGAIN?

IT REALLY IS MY BICYCLE...

Mm-hm.

SEI IESU.

NNNGH... I CAN'T BELIEVE HE THINKS I'M A THIEF!

Wanted!

I-I'M TELLING YOU...

WHAT? IS THAT A FINGERPRINT I.D. SYSTEM OR SOMETHING?

OH, WOULD YOU LIKE TO PUT YOUR FINGERS IN IT?!

THE ONLY I.D. I HAVE IS MY STIGMATA ...

YOU HAVE REACHED THE UNITED AFTERLIFE ALLIANCE.

BRRRRING

CLICK

NOW SOMEONE WILL COME GET ME!

What a relief...

OH, HELLO? THIS IS THE POLICE...

OH, YES, PLEASE DO THAT!

OKAY, I'LL JUST CALL YOUR HOME AND GET SOMEONE THERE TO VOUCH FOR YOU.

BRRRRING

WHEW ...!

But that *always* works. It even got doubting Thomas to believe me...

BIRTH DATE, 1 CE...

HOMETOWN, LAND OF THE GODS.

HE'S AWFULLY SUSPICIOUS, BUT HE DOESN'T SEEM LIKE A BAD GUY...

BAM

Crime Wave
Phone Fraud

Learn all about the devilish techniques used in these phone calls from alleged police officers!!

HAS JESUS-SAMA RUN INTO TROUBLE ...?!

THE POLICE ...?

Reception

HMM, GOOD POINT.

OKAY.

BUT I DON'T KNOW. WHAT IF IT'S ACTUALLY REAL?

SERIOUSLY, I REALLY WISH THESE GUYS WOULD REPENT!

LEGIT?

BAD NEWS, BRO... IT'S HAPPENED. WE GOT ONE OF THOSE PHONE CALLS...

IF THE COCK CROWS, WE KNOW IT'S REAL!

TADAH!

THEN TELL THE COP "I DON'T KNOW HIM" THREE TIMES...

PETER!!!

If You Recognize This Face

DING!!

HE JUST DENIED ALL KNOWL-EDGE OF YOU, THREE TIMES!!

COCKLE-DOODLE-DOO!!

YOU GOT PRIORS?!

I DON'T WANT TO GO TO COURT AGAIN!!

WHY DID YOU GIVE ME A FAKE NUMBER?

ARE YOU TRYING TO HIDE SOMETHING FROM ME?!

COMMUNICATIONS SAFETY

IT'S NOT WHAT YOU THINK! HE SAYS THAT ALL THE TIME— IT'S KIND OF TURNED INTO HIS TRADEMARK GAG!

HE'S WITH THE POLICE? WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

WHAT?

THE COCK CROWED?

YEAH, OKAY. I'LL LOOK AROUND AND SEE...

SO, BUDDHA-SAMA, WE'RE WONDERING IF YOU KNEW WHICH POLICE STATION MIGHT HAVE HIM...

I-I HAVE BREAKING NEWS!

I'M HERE OUTSIDE A POLICE STATION IN KOKUBUNJI, TOKYO...

TH-THIS IS TERRIBLE!

HAVE YOU SENT THE ANGELS ...?

WELL, UM, MARY-SAMA SAID...

BUT THE OFFICER HUNG UP ON ME BEFORE I COULD ASK WHAT STATION ...

WE KIND OF GOT A PHONE CALL.

OH, YEAH. HE DOES KIND OF START TO LASH OUT WHEN HE FEELS TOO ALONE AND HELPLESS...

What? Lost? I am not!!! I mean, obviously I was going to be at the church! Why didn't you find me sooner ?!

...HE GETS REALLY MEAN ANYTIME HE GETS LOST, SO WE SHOULD LEAVE HIM ALONE.

...ARE LINING UP TO TURN THEM-SELVES IN!!

I SHOP-LIFTED THIS!!

I JUST SNATCHED THIS OVER THERE!!

THAT'S ME ON THE POSTER! I'M REALLY SORRY!!

SUSPECTS WHO APPEAR TO HAVE SEEN THE LIGHT...

...OH.

Oh! And we just heard a voice saying, "I don't like this, I want to go home."

OCCA-SIONALLY A VOICE COMES FROM INSIDE, SAYING, "REPENT"...

WHAT DOES IT ALL MEAN...?

THE RIGHT MAN FOR THE JOB.

YOU ARE SO LEGIT, BUDDHA-SAMA!

...?!

I FOUND HIM, PETER-SAN.

I'M SORRY I DIDN'T LOOK FOR YOU SOONER, JESUS!

BUDDHA!! I WAS SO SCARED!!

SHIRT: CAMEL IN NEEDLE'S EYE

YEAH, AT ONE POINT, HE RAN OUT OF HANDCUFFS— HE LOOKED LIKE HE WAS GOING TO CRY.

...IS THAT POLICE OFFICER, BEING SURROUNDED BY ALL THOSE CRIMINALS IN THAT TINY STATION.

BUT I BET THE PERSON HAV-ING THE SCARIEST TIME...

YEAH. SINCE YOU HAVEN'T GOTTEN A CHANCE ON IT YET.

WHAT? I CAN?

OH, I KNOW! YOU CAN RIDE IT ON THE WAY HOME!

I WAS REALLY WORRIED, YOU KNOW!

IT IS FAR TOO EASY TO FLIP YOUR HYPER SWITCH.

I'M SORRY. THE BICYCLE WAS JUST WAY MORE FUN THAN I IMAGINED.

TO SUPERMARKET

BUT NOT ENOUGH TO MAKE ME LOSE CONTROL OF MYSELF...

SFF

Tomato Super-market

HA HA. MAYBE A LITTLE.

WHAT DO YOU THINK? GETTING HYPED UP?

TOMATO SUPERMAR

...WITH NO LIMIT! BUY AS MANY AS YOU WANT!

FLASH SALE FOR TOILET PAPER, STARTING NOW. SIX ROLLS FOR 80 YEN...

Tomato Super-ll market

I...

I'M SORRY, JESUS...

LET'S SEE. SINCE IT'S OUR NEW...

OH! GOOD IDEA!

...NOW THAT WE HAVE A BICYCLE, WHY DON'T WE GIVE IT A NAME?

HEY, I KNOW, BUDDHA ...

IT IS SAID THAT WHEN-EVER BUDDHA RIDES THE BICYCLE, ONE CAN HEAR THE CLOP-PING OF HOOVES.

WHAT?! WHY? NOT THAT I DON'T LIKE IT, BUT—!

...K... KAN-THAKA ...

KANTHAKA 2!!

CLOP CLOP CLOP CLOP CLOP CLOP

...PART-NER...

Nepio

YUP. THAT'S THE POWER OF THE BICYCLE.

WHEN I REMEMBERED WE HAD A BASKET, I FIGURED WE COULD CARRY AS MANY AS WE WANTED...

I think they were going to have some info on Dragon Quest, too.
I wouldn't know...
I wonder what happened in One Piece.
Nope...
Hey, Bro, have you seen my Jump from this week?
COCKLE-DOODLE-DOO!!
I don't know, I don't play video games!!
JUMP
Reception

A before-the-cock-crows gag

CHAPTER 31 TRANSLATION NOTES

Horn of a rhinoceros,

This is a reference to the *Rhinoceros Sutra*, a very early Buddhist text. The main theme of the sutra is the virtue of "wandering alone, like a rhinoceros horn," or in other words, seeking enlightenment alone, unattached to the world, as opposed to with or for others.

Anoma River,

The Anoma River is the river in Nepal where Siddhartha Gautama bid a final farewell to his beloved horse Kanthaka before renouncing the world entirely and trading his royal garments for the robes of an ascetic. It is said that after this, Kanthaka died of a broken heart, but was eventually reborn as a human, became a follower of the Buddha, and attained enlightenment.

Doubting Thomas,

After Jesus was resurrected, he appeared to a group of his disciples, but Thomas, one of the Twelve Apostles, was not present then. When the other disciples told him that they knew Jesus had risen from death, Thomas refused to believe until he had seen and felt the stigmata—the wounds in Jesus's hands and side—for himself. By feeling the scars, Thomas could prove to himself that it was really the resurrected Lord, and not a pretender.

If the cock crows,

Before Jesus was arrested at the end of his ministry, although Peter insisted that he would never forsake his lord, Jesus predicted that he would deny him three times before the cock crows (in other words, before dawn). When Jesus was on trial and Peter was watching the proceedings, three times someone recognized him as one of Jesus's disciples, and all three times Peter insisted that Jesus was a stranger to him. When he heard the cock crow, he was reminded of Jesus's prediction and deeply regretted what he had done.

When Jesus gets lost,

When Jesus was twelve years old, Mary and Joseph took him to Jerusalem for Passover. When the feast was over, their caravan had been traveling for about a day when Mary and Joseph discovered that Jesus was not in the group with them. When they returned to Jerusalem to search for him, they found him in the temple conversing with doctors and other highly educated men. Mary asked him, "Son, why hast thou thus dealt with us? Behold, thy father and I have sought thee sorrowing." In response, Jesus asked why they would be searching for him, and pointed out that they should have known that he would be at his father's house—the temple.

Camel in Needle's Eye,

This is a reference to an incident in Jesus's life when a rich young man came to him and asked what more he needed to do to get eternal life. Jesus told him he needed to sell all he had, give the money to the poor, and follow Jesus. The young man didn't want to give away his riches, and so he "went away sorrowful." Seeing him go, Jesus pointed out that it is very difficult for those who put their trust in riches to enter the kingdom of heaven, adding, "It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle, than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of God."

...*"HE THAT HATH TWO COATS, LET HIM IMPART TO HIM THAT HATH NONE."*

JOHN THE BAPTIST ONCE SAID...

...LET HIM IMPART TO HIM THAT HATH NONE!

...HE THAT HATH TWO SPACE HEATERS...

AND A CITIZEN OF TACHIKAWA ONCE SAID...

OH, SORRY. I DIDN'T MEAN I DON'T WANT YOU TO TAKE IT!

HOW CAN YOU SAY SUCH COLD THINGS IN THIS ICY WEATHER?!

THERE MUST BE A SAINT LIVING IN THIS NEIGHBORHOOD, BUDDHA!

...I COULD LEAVE ONE OF MY SOCKS. WOULD THAT HELP?

WHAT? THAT'LL JUST BE MORE TRASH.

ANY OTHER MONTH, YES...

YAY!!

LET'S PUT IT IN THE BASKET!

BUT NOW THAT WE DECIDED TO TAKE IT, I FEEL BAD FOR OTHER PEOPLE...

AN ELECTRIC SPACE HEATER, EH? THOSE DO DRIVE UP THE ELECTRIC BILL.

OH, SO YOU'RE EXPECTING SANTA-SAN TO BRING SOMEONE THE PRESENT THEY *REALLY* WANTED.

BUT THIS MONTH THEY MIGHT FIND SOMETHING INSIDE IT ON THE MORNING OF THE 25TH.

I'd cry if my present was delivered straight to the garbage heap.

SAINT YOUNG MEN

Chapter 32

Operation Warm and Toasty!!

BUDDHA: LATELY HOOKED ON THE WORD *BANKARA* (SCRUFFY).

HA HA. YOU JUST GOT ATTACKED BY GENERAL WINTER!

BUT IT REALLY IS CHILLY...

BZZT

NNNGH, I'M SO COLD I CAN'T GET THE KEY IN THE LOCK...

EEP! STATIC SHOCK!!!

OOOHH! SO YOUR STRATEGY IS TO WARM UP FROM THE INSIDE!

THUD

BUT I KNEW IT WOULD BE, SO I BOUGHT INGREDIENTS FOR HOTPOT TONIGHT.

JESUS: LATELY HOOKED ON THE WORD *HEBEREKE* (BLIND DRUNK).

OH, I PUT THE POWER STRIP AWAY WITH THE FAN.

Grr...

WE MIGHT JUST HAVE TO GET OUT A POWER STRIP...

WE NEED THE KOTATSU, AND I CAN'T UNPLUG THE TV...

OKAY! THEN I'LL GET REINFORCE-MENTS FROM THE OUTSIDE WITH THIS SPACE HEATER.

UH-OH, WAIT A MINUTE... ALL THE OUTLETS ARE TAKEN.

WAIT! IF YOU HAVE TO LOOK THERE, LOOK QUIETLY SO YOU DON'T WAKE IT UP!

OH, I SHOULD LOOK IN THE SUMMER ZONE...

WHAT? WAKE WHAT UP?

WOW, IT IS... I GUESS T-SHIRTS WOULD BE SUMMER CREATURES.

スヤ SNOOORE...

スピー SNRRR...

THE VERONICA T-SHIRT. IT'S HIBER-NATING...

SHIRT: VERONICA

WILL THIS THREE-OUTLET ONE BE ENOUGH?

OH! HERE IT IS.

IT'S HAVING A NIGHT-MARE...

Nngh... Maybe initials...!!

NO... DON'T WRITE A NAME ON THE TAG...

THAT WILL BE REALLY NICE IN THE MORNING WHEN WE'RE GETTING CHANGED.

SUCH A SWIFT ATTACK OF WARMTH...

I DUB THEE SHOCK COMMANDER WARM-AND-TOASTY!!

Oohh...

PUTTING ON COLD JEANS IN THE MORNING IS LIKE FIGHTING A FINAL BOSS...

CLICK カチッ

SLOOOW スー……

CLICK カチッ……

YEAH, THAT'LL WORK...

IF IT'S NOT BROKEN ...

IT'S WORKING !!!

FWAAH!

OOOH, WOW! THAT TURNED REALLY RED!

WE COULDN'T HAVE A STRONGER FORMATION!!

WARM OUR INSIDES WITH THE HOTPOT...

RAISE THE ROOM TEMPERATURE WITH THE SPACE HEATER...

WE COVER THE RUG WITH THE KOTATSU...

SHIRT: CHANNA

WE'RE INDULGING SO MUCH, I'M AFRAID WE'LL PAY FOR...

HA HA HA, ALL RIGHT.

...SO... LET'S SEE ITS TRUE POWER!

AND THIS IS JUST THE ***LOW*** SETTING ON THE HEATER...

BZZT

WE...

HUH ...?

JESUS, I THINK WE TRIPPED THE CIRCUIT BREAKER.

IT'S PROBABLY THE BREAKER.

IT'S NOT THE END.

BUT I DON'T HEAR ANY TRUMPETS! PLEASE, NOT ON A COLD DAY LIKE THIS...

IS THIS THE END?!

OH.

MARA?!

LUCIFER?!

NO, I'M NOT TALKING ABOUT THE DIFFERENT CIRCLES OF HELL.

I THINK PETER WOULD FALL DOWN THERE HEAD-FIRST...

LIKE HELL FOR RUDE, DISRE-SPECTFUL PEOPLE?!

WE TRIPPED INTO THE CIRCLE OF BRAZEN CURS?!

THEN WE JUST HAVE TO TURN THE MAIN POWER BACK ON, RIGHT?

O-OH, SO IT WAS ELECTRICITY-RELATED...

WAVE

WAVE

WAVE

IT SHUTS OFF THE APARTMENT'S MAIN POWER WHEN YOU USE TOO MUCH ELECTRICITY.

I SAID "CIRCUIT BREAK-ER."

I REFUSE TO LET THE EGGS GET DRY AND HARD!

SO WHAT, WE'RE HAVING A DARK HOTPOT PARTY NOW?!

BECAUSE ...

I JUST PUT EGGS ON THE HOTPOT!

WHAT? BUT YOU HAVE TO TRY. I FEEL SO HELPLESS IN THE DARK!

YES... BUT I'VE ACTUALLY NEVER TOUCHED IT, EITHER.

NO... I CAN'T MOVE FROM THIS SPOT.

RIGHT, GENRE-WISE, I GUESS "HOLY HOT-POT" WOULD BE MORE ACCURATE.

The eggs, mixing beautifully with the shirataki...

I see it...

I MAY GAZE UPON IT WITH MY MIND'S EYE.

I'M NOT IN THE DARK.

UH...OH. I THOUGHT I'D TOUCHED AN ARMADILLO...

THAT'S MY HEAD, JESUS CHRIST.

どわわ CHI-LI-LI

GAH! I TOUCHED SOMETHING WEIRD!!

FINE... I'LL GO DEAL WITH THE BREAKER ...

WHAT, REALLY? I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT IT, EITHER ...

BUT IT FEELS LIKE THERE'S MORE THAN ONE SWITCH HERE!

IT'S OPEN!

SHIRT: MORNING STAR

NNNGH...

I THINK THE BREAKER IS SOMEWHERE ABOVE THE DOOR.

明けの明星

OH...IS THIS IT? I FOUND SOME-THING— I THINK IT WILL OPEN.

WHAT? YOUR DAD IS GOOD WITH ELECTRONICS?

AHH, IF ONLY DAD WERE HERE, WE COULD FIX THIS PROBLEM SO FAST...

I MEAN, YOU COULD SAY THAT, BUT...

DAD SAID, "PLEASE LET THERE BE LIGHT," AND THEN THERE IT WAS.

That would be so much more fun...

Please just let there be light...

This scenery is so dark and depressing...

...IN THE BEGIN-NING,

OH, NO, NO. THAT'S OKAY.

Ugh, this really makes my arms tired...

SO I FIGURE IF WE COULD GET HIM TO SAY IT AGAIN, THEN MAYBE...

HE WAS ON THE VERGE OF PERFORMING AN EPIC RESET.

IT'S NOT LIKE THIS IS A GENESIS-LEVEL BLACKOUT ...

WHY DON'T YOU USE A LIGHT OF YOUR OWN?

HEY, GOOD IDEA!

I'M SCARED I'M GONNA PUSH THE WRONG BUTTON...

HMMM, BUT I CAN'T SEE A THING...

UH, NO, JESUS. I JUST MEANT LIKE NOT A LIGHT FROM THE APARTMENT. LIKE FROM YOUR CELL PHONE.

GLOW

THERE, NOW I CAN SEE...

GOOD IDEA! WE CAN INVITE THE DISCIPLES.

BUT YOU KNOW ...

THIS IS KIND OF FUN. NEXT TIME, MAYBE WE REALLY SHOULD HAVE A DARK HOTPOT PARTY!

I FEEL ODDLY ACCOM-PLISHED ...

GOOD, LOOKS LIKE IT'S TURNING OUT NICELY...

OH! I'M STARTING TO MAKE OUT WHAT'S IN THE HOT-POT...

WOW, THIS COULD ACTUALLY WORK...

OH! I GOT IT!

This was the one!

CLICK

FLASH

THE NAME "DARK HOT-POT" DOES MAKE IT SOUND LIKE SOME KIND OF DEMONIC RITUAL...

HA HA HA. YEAH. SOUNDS LIKE WE'D WANT TO INVITE...

MUNCH もぐ"

MUNCH もぐ"

CHOMP カ"

CHOMP カ"

...MARA AND LUCIFER-SAN...

L...

GASP

...AAAHH...

...BELCH.

WHOA, RUDE! DIDN'T YOU *JUST* YELL FOR US?

JUST A... WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?!

AND YOU'RE *BOTH* HERE... ARE YOU FRIENDS ?!

WHA—!

This metal is Freezing!!!

I...I'M COLD! TURN ON THE HEATER!!

SO PUT SOME CLOTHES ON, MARA!!!

IT TASTES LIKE CRAP!! GIVE ME SECONDS !!

L-L-L-L-LUCIFER!!

I'D ONLY EVER DO THAT ON THE INTERNET !!!

ME! FRIENDS WITH A GUY LIKE HIM!

REALLY?

YES, REALLY !!

ガ" ガ" RATTLE RATTLE ガ" ガ"

DON'T BE STUPID! OF COURSE WE'RE NOT FRIENDS!!

I MEAN, I DON'T EVEN *WANT* TO BE FRIENDS!!

明けの明星

MARA: THE DEMON WHO TEMPTED BUDDHA AS HE MEDITATED UNDER THE BHODI TREE. LATELY HOOKED ON THE WORD "*SOPPU-GATA* (SLIM SUMO WRES-TLER)."

OH. I DON'T HAVE A COMPUTER.

NERVES ハラ ハラ NERVES

NERVES ハラ ハラ NERVES

B-DUMP ドキ B-DUMP ドキ B-DUMP ドキ

YES, CLEAR YOUR MIND AND REMOVE THE SCUM!!

CLEAR YOUR MIND ...!!

GRR... IT'S NO USE. I CAN'T HELP WANTING TO STAND UP FOR MARA...!

IF YOU NEED A COMPUT-ER...YOU CAN HAVE ONE OF MINE!!

... LUCIFER, YOU DEVIL!!!

RATTLE ガ" RATTLE ガ" RATTLE ガ"

WHAT?! NO WAY. I DON'T KNOW HOW TO USE ONE ANYWAY!

OH. NO. AND IT HAS NO NUTRITIONAL VALUE.

DOESN'T IT ADD TO THE FLAVOR, THOUGH?

UH...BUDDHA, YOU'RE ALWAYS REMOVING THAT STUFF.

NO FAIR, GOING INTO CLEAR-MIND MODE, BUDDHA!!

MAYBE HE'LL TAKE ME THERE WITH HIM!

...EVEN HOTPOT LOSES ITS APPEAL.

BECAUSE WHEN YOU EAT IT WITH SCUM...

SWIUUU

I WONDER IF THERE ARE ANY BETTER WAYS TO GET RID OF IT...

IT'S SUCH A PAIN TO DEAL WITH.

BUT IT JUST KEEPS POP-PING UP— IT NEVER LEAVES YOU ALONE.

LUCIFER: A FALLEN ANGEL WHO WAS CAST OUT OF THE HEAVENS. LATELY HOOKED ON THE WORD *"HIRU-ANDON* (SOME-THING THAT'S AS USEFUL AS A LAMP IN BROAD DAY-LIGHT)."

...I...

HUH?

...BUDDHA... I THINK YOU JUST... KINDA...

BUDDHA'S SECOND EVER EMAIL TO MARA WAS, "APPARENTLY SOYBEAN SCUM CAN HELP PREVENT CANCER ^_^"

THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEANT! I DIDN'T MEAN *YOU* WERE SCUM! I WAS TALKING ABOUT THE HOTPOT!!!

HUH...?

OH!

SLITHER

I HAVE TO GET HOME TO WATCH DOWNTOWN'S GAKI-TSUKA!!

カタカタ RATTLE RATTLE

SLITHER

STAY OUT OF THIS, LUCIFER! NO FEELINGS ARE HURT WORSE THAN BUDDHA'S RIGHT NOW!!

HNGH ...!

OOOOH, WHAT A BULLY. YOU'RE THE SCUMMIEST OF ALL, BUDDHA.

BUT YOU WERE AN ANGEL FIRST!

I'M NOT *ACTING!* I'M THE DEVIL!

WHY DO YOU ALWAYS HAVE TO ACT SO BAD?!

THAT ATTITUDE OF YOURS IS WHY THE WAR IN HEAVEN WENT ON SO LONG!

THERE YOU GO AGAIN!

BESIDES, LITTLE MIKEY'S NOT WORRIED— HE DOESN'T CARE ABOUT ME.

I DON'T SEE WHY I SHOULD HAVE TO APOLO-GIZE.

MICHAEL'S WORRIED ABOUT YOU, TOO.

I BET DAD WOULD FORGIVE YOU IF YOU REALLY APOLO-GIZED.

COME TO THINK OF IT, LUCIFER IS MICHAEL'S OLDER BROTHER, ISN'T HE?

THAT'S A FIGHT ***NOBODY*** WOULD BE ABLE TO BREAK UP...

A FIGHT BETWEEN THE CHIEF ANGEL AND THE EX-CHIEF ANGEL...

WE WERE ALL HELPLESS TO INTER-FERE...

WHEN YOU AND MICHAEL WENT AT IT,

OH, THAT WASN'T WHY. IT WAS...

OHH, YEAH. IN THOSE SITUATIONS, ALL YOU *CAN* DO IS LOOK ON FROM A SAFE DISTANCE.

Shut up! 'Cause you're always copying me!

BONK

You're always like that!! You just *have* to be different!

BONK

IT WAS MORE ABOUT NOT WANTING TO GET MIXED UP IN FAMILY DRAMA...

S-SO WHAT? THAT'S MY POINT— *HE* SHOULD APOLOGIZE, NOT ME!

YOU DON'T KNOW ANY THING!!

WHAM

YEAH. HE GETS STRONGER WHEN HE'S UPSET.

BUT MICHAEL-SAN WON IN THE END, RIGHT?

SURE I'M OLDER, BUT ONLY BY LIKE A YEAR OR TWO!!

HOW IS THAT NOT DISCRIMI-NATION?!

HE UNAPOLOGETI-CALLY DEFENDS HIMSELF USING THE WORST BIG BROTHER IN HISTORY...

Oh, but Devadatta was a big brother, too...

THE BIG BROTHER WAS THE BAD ONE IN THAT SCENARIO!

I MEAN, THINK OF CAIN AND ABEL!

AAAAHH!!

THERE IT IS! THE "YOU'RE THE BIG BROTHER" SPEECH !!!

SO BE THE MATURE ONE AND STOP BEING STUBBORN!

YOU'RE WRONG, LUCIFER. YOU'RE THE BIG BROTHER!

I WANTED A PICTURE OF YOU WITH THIS HIGHLY NUTRITIOUS HOTPOT...

THERE'S A GLARE FROM INSIDE THE HOTPOT...

AW, SHOOT.

...WHAT ARE YOU TAKING PICTURES FOR?

SNAP

UUUGH, I HATE THE HEAVENS! CAN YOU BLAME ME FOR GOING ROGUE?

I WAS HOPING TO EASE HIS MIND A LITTLE.

He thinks he gets enough veggies from Peyoung instant noodle seasoning...

SO I COULD SEND IT TO MICHAEL. HE SAID HE WAS WORRIED THAT YOU WEREN'T GETTING YOUR VEGETABLES.

Damn you, you stupid jerk!

FLAP FLAP FLAP

DING-A-LING-A-LING

...HE RAN AWAY AGAIN...

BWAH

MICHAEL WILL BE SO HAPPY.

A PICTURE OF YOU IN A WARM PLACE, EATING WARM FOOD.

THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT I *DON'T* WANT!!

NOW DON'T MOVE! AND GIVE ME A HEALTHIER SMILE!!

...WHAT ...?

INCH

INCH

INCH

JUST A...

CUT IT OUT...

NO. KNOWING MICHAEL, HE WOULD CRY.

SO... YOU'RE NOT GOING TO SEND IT?

CLICK CLICK

THOSE DEMON TYPES ARE ALL SO SENSITIVE...

SNAP

OH, YOU KNOW... SENDING MARA A FOLLOW-UP EMAIL.

...WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

BUDDHA ...

WHAT DO I DO? I MIGHT HAVE HURT HIM MORE THAN I THOUGHT ...

SHOULD I SEND ANOTHER EMAIL...?!

...MARA'S NOT EMAILING ME BACK...

AND THE DEVILS LEFT...

...BUT NOT WITHOUT LEAVING EMO-TIONAL SCARS.

HE MIGHT FEEL LIKE HE WAS BEEN REJECTED BY ME *AND* DOWNTOWN!

GAKI-TSUKA WASN'T ON THAT NIGHT BECAUSE OF A SPECIAL NEWS REPORT...

HE WAS ACTUALLY BEING CONSIDER-ATE, IN HIS OWN WAY!!

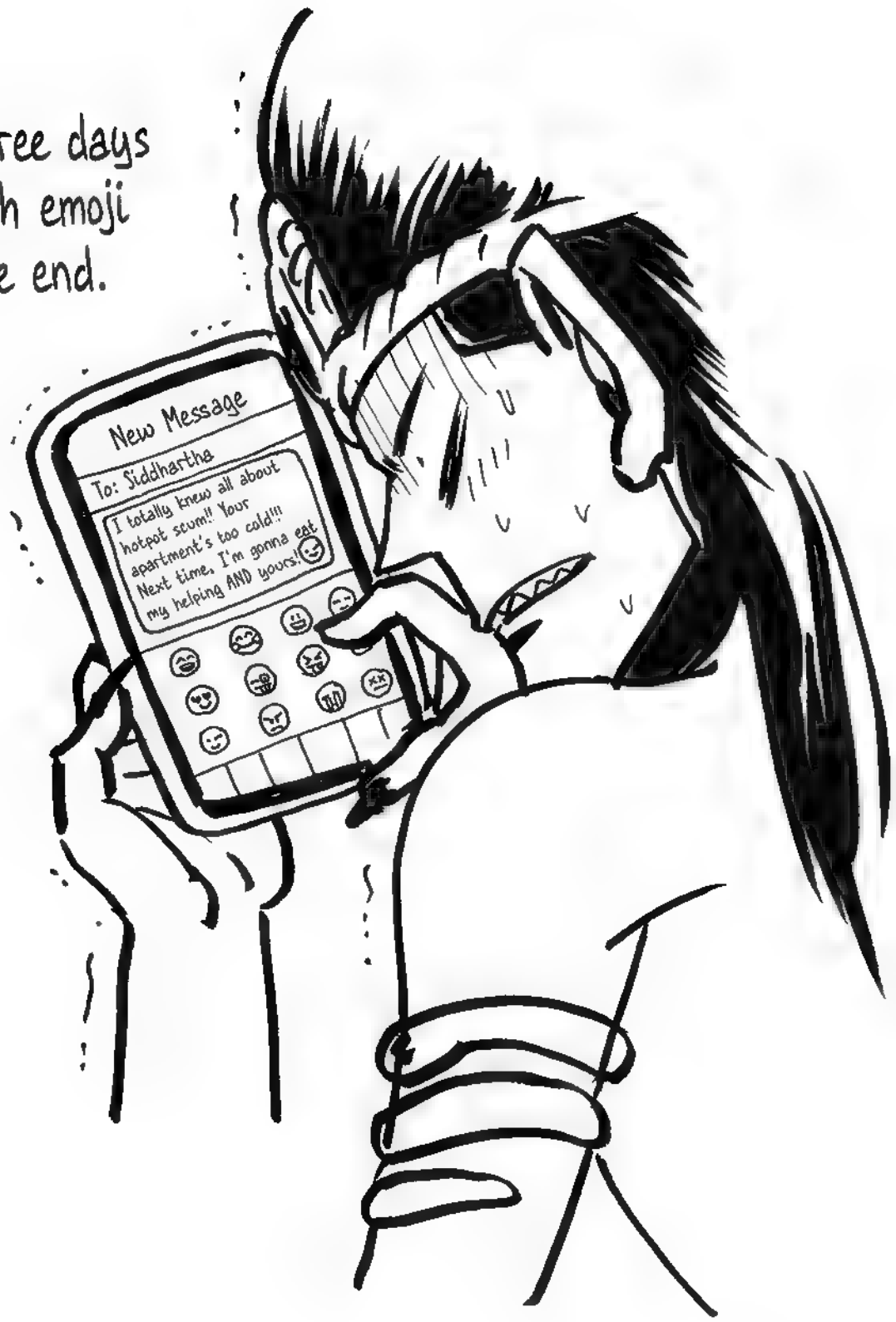
IT MUST BE FROM LUCI-FER!

I FOUND THIS BEHIND JUNIOR...

IT'S A GIFT BAG FROM HELL'S MOST FAMOUS SWEET SHOP, MORNING STAR.

MORNING STAR

Spent a full three days deciding which emoji to use at the end.


New Message
To: Siddhartha
I totally knew all about hotpot scum!! Your apartment's too cold!!! Next time, I'm gonna eat my helping AND yours!

CHAPTER 32 TRANSLATION NOTES

He that hath two coats,

Many English translations of the Bible use the word "coat" to translate the Greek word *chiton*, which specifically refers to a type of tunic worn over the torso referenced here, but can also simply mean "covering" or "clothes." The Japanese translation of the Bible uses the word *shitagi*, meaning "undergarment." This may be because a chiton was often worn as part of a set, under a himation, which served as a cloak. Other English translations of the Bible use the word "shirt," which, like chiton, refers to a basic piece of clothing that may also be worn as underwear.

Bulky Garbage Pickup,

To dispose of garbage that won't fit in a standard trash can in Japan, there is a very particular process to prevent piles of over-sized garbage from flooding the streets. First, you must call a special number to make an appointment for pickup. To pay for this service, you buy *sodai gomi shori-ken*, or "bulky garbage pickup tickets," which can usually be purchased at a local convenience store. On the morning of the appointment, you place the stickers on the large item you wish to dispose of, and leave it out for pickup. The stickers tell everyone else that the item is scheduled for a pickup, and therefore they are not to take it, as the trash collectors will have to call around to make sure it hasn't been stolen.

Attacked by General Winter,

General Winter, or the *Fuyu Shōgun*, is the personification of severe winter weather. Buddha here suggests that General Winter has done a *tsujigiri* on Jesus, resulting in Jesus getting zapped with static electricity. *Tsujigiri* literally means "crossroads slaying," and refers to a practice of testing a new sword by using it to cut down random passersby.

Channa,

Channa was Prince Siddhartha's royal servant and head charioteer. It was he who saddled Kanthaka and guided Siddhartha out of the city when he ran away from home.

Circle of brazen curs,

When Buddha uses the unfamiliar word *bureekaa*, his roommate tries to put it into a context he understands and interprets it as *burei-kai*, which literally means "rudeness realm."

Dark hotpot party,

Yami nabe, literally "dark pot," is a potluck in the truest sense. People bring ingredients to include in a hot pot stew, without telling anyone else what they have brought.

Morning Star,

The "morning star" is another name for the planet Venus, which appears as a bright star in the early hours of the day, but is not seen in the night sky because of its orbit in relation to the Earth's. Another name for the morning star in Latin is "Lucifer."

Please let there be light,

The Japanese version of the famous quote from Genesis, "Let the be light," is "*hikari are*," which means "let there be light." By itself, are is the command form of the Japanese verb *aru*, "to be." Here, the author of the manga added a continuation, and made the word *areba*, which means "if there was." She further added *ii noni,* which roughly means "that would be nice." So altogether, it means, "If only we had some light."

A light of your own,

In the original text, Buddha suggests using a backlight, using the English word backlight, which refers to the light used to light up liquid crystal displays on things like cell phones. When translated literally into Japanese, the word becomes *gokō*, which is the word for "halo." Hence, in the original Japanese, after Jesus turns on his halo, Buddha comments, "I didn't mean it as a literal translation of 'halo.'"

Eating with scum,
The Japanese word for scum, as found in hotpots and other brothy dishes, is *aku.* This *aku* contains the bitterness of the vegetables and the stink of the meat and fish that are being cooked in the pot. However, *aku* is also the word for "evil," as in the first syllable of *akuma*, demon or devil.

Gaki-Tsuka,
Short for *Downtown no Gaki no Tsukai ya Arahen de!!*, roughly translated to *"Downtown's 'This is no job for kids!'"*, a variety show hosted by the famous comedy duo Downtown.

Lucifer is Michael's older brother, isn't he?,
While there are debates about whether the word "lucifer" as it appears in the Bible was meant as a proper name or simply as a mention of the morning star, since the King James Version was translated, it has come to be understood as another name for the devil or Satan—specifically the name he had before he was cast out of heaven for rebellion. He was an archangel, like Michael, however there are no canonical sources that definitively identify him as Michael's brother in any sense that wouldn't make all of the angels brothers. The idea may have come from the Bogomil sect, who taught that God had two sons—Satanail and Michael. In their cosmology, Satanail plays a role similar to Lucifer, and Michael plays a role similar to that of Jesus Christ. The concept of Lucifer and Michael being brothers is alive and well in modern pop culture, including but not limited to the DC Comics series *Lucifer* and the popular '90s manga *Angel Sanctuary.*

The War in Heaven,
As the name suggests, the War in Heaven was a war fought in Heaven. Lucifer rebelled against God and convinced several of the residents of Heaven to join his army. They fought Michael and his armies, lost, and were cast out of Heaven.

Cain and Abel,
Cain and Abel were sons of Adam and Eve, the first man and woman. Cain, the older brother, was the first murderer, killing Abel out of jealousy and to take over Abel's flocks.

SAINT☆YOUNG MEN

WHEN THE CHRIST CHILD WAS CONCEIVED IN THE HOLY VIRGIN MARY...

THE LORD IS WITH THEE.

HAIL, THOU THAT ART HIGHLY FAVORED.

DING DONG

JESUS, HOW MANY PIECES OF MOCHI DO YOU WANT IN YOUR AMAZAKE?

It's our "Year's First Laugh" comedy special!!

Hey, it's Waraimeshi!

...IT WAS THE ARCHANGEL GABRIEL WHO APPEARED TO HER TO GIVE HER THE NEWS.

DON'T TELL ME I'M THE TARGET OF IMPREGNATION TERRORISM?!

...IS *THAT* WHAT'S WRONG?!

IS THE LORD NOT WITH THEE...

WHAT IS GOING ON WITH MY IN-SIDES?

MAYBE I SHOULDN'T HAVE ANY MOCHI...

URK...

COMING!

HAIL, THOU THAT ART HIGHLY FAVORED.

WHO IS IT...

OH...!

STARE じっ

...EVEN ON THIS NEW YEAR'S HOLIDAY?!

I...I'M SORRY. I'LL MAKE HIM VISIT HOME NEXT YEAR, I PROMISE!

SAINT YOUNG MEN

Chapter 33

It's a New Year and the Gang's All Here!

BUDDHA: WINTER SPORT HE MOST WANTS TO TRY: CURLING. SWEEPING THE ICE WITH BROOMS LOOKS LIKE FUN.

HAPPY NEW YEAR, JESUS-SAMA!!

WA

AH!

OH! GABRIEL! GUYS! HOW YA DOIN'?!

JESUS: WINTER SPORT HE MOST WANTS TO TRY: THE SKI JUMP. HE FEELS LIKE HE COULD JUMP ALL THE WAY TO THE HEAVENS.

NO, I THINK HE'S ACTUALLY PUT ON SOME MUSCLE!

YOU HAVEN'T CHANGED A BIT, JESUS-SAMA!

IT'S BEEN AGES! I HAVEN'T SEEN YOU GUYS SINCE IZU!

OTHER THAN ANANDA, I HAVEN'T SEEN MY DISCIPLES IN A LONG TIME, EITHER...

JESUS LOOKS SO HAPPY...

Come on, you bring that up every time I see you!

The speed of your cell divisions was so different than the average person...

How nice...

Jesus-sama

THE FIRST TIME I SAW YOU, YOU WERE LITERALLY KNEE-HIGH TO A GRASS-HOPPER...

TOUCHED

HA HA HA! OH, COME ON. IT DOESN'T COUNT IF I WAS A FETUS!

IT'S NOT EXACTLY A NEW YEAR'S GIFT. ACTUALLY ...

IT'S FINE! JUST TAKE IT!!

WHAT? NEW YEAR'S MON-EY?!

WE CAN'T TAKE THAT! WE'RE GROWN SAINTS...

SHOVE SHOVE

OH! AND THIS IS FOR BOTH OF YOU FROM MARY-SAMA AND ME...

GABRIEL-SAN MIGHT BE A LITTLE UPSET THAT JESUS DIDN'T GO HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS.

BUT I THINK ...

Based on rarities...

WHAT ...?

B-DMP B-DMP

IT'S THE EXACT AMOUNT NEEDED TO GET FROM HERE TO THE HEAVENS!!

Be sure to save it for later!

Transportation

IT'S TO PAY FOR TRANSPOR-TATION... UNDER-STAND?

MONEY: BANK OF JAPAN, 10,000 YEN

THERE'S ALSO SOUVENIR REQUESTS AND GIFT CERTIFICATES TO THE DEPARTMENT STORE FOOD FLOOR...

Gift Certificate 5000

Fuel
Tokyo Banana
Hato Sable

JUST MOSEY ON BACK WHENEVER YOU FEEL LIKE IT!!

Not at all! Not at all!

OH, NO, DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT!!

WE... WE'LL MAKE IT SOMETIME THIS YEAR, I PROMISE!

OKAY, AND THE REST-ROOM IS THIS WAY, SO FEEL FREE TO USE IT WHEN-EVER...

The light switch is inside!

HEH HEH... BUDDHA-SAMA, WE ARE ARCH-ANGELS.

OH, SORRY. WE DON'T REALLY HAVE SPACE FOR *EVERYONE'S* WINGS.

ALSO, I HATE TO ASK, BUT MAY WE SPREAD OUR WINGS IN HERE?

THAT'S OKAY. WE'LL TAKE TURNS THEN, IF THAT'S ALL RIGHT.

WOW! I'M SORRY YOU WENT THROUGH ALL THIS TROUBLE. THANK YOU SO MUCH!

OH, AND THESE ARE YOUR NEW YEAR'S CARDS.

AND, UM, PLEASE COME IN!

ANGELS DO NOT POOP.

TADAH!!

THAT'S RIGHT.

WHIRL

IDOLS DO NOT POOP.

HEH HEH, BUT YOU SHOULD KNOW, IDOLS DON'T SAY THE WORD POOP OVER AND OVER, EITHER!

THE IDOLS OF ALL IDOLS, WHO DON'T EVEN KNOW THE MEANING OF THE WORD POOP!

BUT WE DON'T POOP, FOR REAL!

WE'RE TRYING TO ACT LIKE ALL THOSE STORIES ABOUT IDOLS!

HOW WAS THAT?

YES, BUT IT'S ALL RIGHT. YOU MAY REST EASY NOW.

SOME-THING WRONG WITH THE KADO-MATSU ...?

WHAT'S UP, URIEL?

NO, HE'S HERE. THERE WAS SOMETHING BY THE STAIRS...

IT'S STILL THE HOLIDAYS. IS HE ALREADY BACK TO WORK?

HUH...? WHERE'S URIEL?

I've sat on a toilet seat before!

But I would like to try pooping.

SOME-THING ABOUT WELCOM-ING THE GODS, OR SUM-MONING GOOD FORTUNE ...

OUR LAND-LADY LEFT THAT FOR US.

HUH? THE KADO-MATSU?

THAT BAMBOO ARRANGE-MENT. HE SAID IT WAS PLACED WRONG...

Oof.

I SHARPENED THE BAMBOO FOR YOU.

FEAR NOT!

OH, AND ALSO...

WELL, I BELIEVE IT WOULD BE A CASE-BY-CASE SORT OF THING...

GNN

GNN

UH...URIEL, IS THAT HOW YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO PUT ONE OF THOSE UP?

ANOTHER KADOMATSU WAS PLACED UNDER THE WINDOW "TO BLOCK ALL ESCAPE ROUTES."

WOW, YOU REALLY DON'T LEAVE ANYTHING TO CHANCE, DO YOU?

THAT WAY YOU'LL BE SURE TO CATCH THEM!!

AND THIS ONE WILL GO ON THE GROUND AROUND THEIR FEET.

THANKS FOR HAVING US!

WOW, YOU HAVE MORE STUFF NOW!

I THINK WE CAN MANAGE TO FIT EVERY-BODY.

THERE'S NOT MUCH SPACE, BUT COME ON IN.

YES, BUT WE DIDN'T GET TO SEE YOU.

WE JUST LET OURSELVES IN...

Oh, thank you very much.

OH, YEAH, YOU WERE HERE FOR MY BIRTHDAY.

SHE TOLD US SHE CHASED YOU AWAY LAST TIME...

WHAT IN THE WORLD DID SHE DO TO YOU?!

BE...BE CAREFUL, EVERYONE ...

WE WON'T FALL FOR THE SAME TRICK TWICE!

HUH?

WINCE

WINCE

WINCE

DING DONG

ACTUALLY, WE WANTED TO COME LAST YEAR, TOO, BUT WE HADN'T BUILT UP THE COURAGE YET.

WHAT? OUR LAND-LADY?

MATSUDA ...

WHO COULD THAT BE...?

MA...

O-OF COURSE, LIKE LAST YEAR!

THOSE ELDERLY EARTH WOMEN ARE RATHER INTIMI-DATING WHEN THEY DO THAT!

Take these!!

You're so skinny! You need to eat more! Here you go!

Oh, my! Are you foreign exchange students?

And eat this!!!

This, too!

I call that forced alms taking.

WAAH!

EVERY-ONE, COVER YOUR POCKETS ...

DON'T LET HER STUFF THEM WITH CANDY!!

BUT WHAT DO WE DO? IF THAT IS MATSUDA-SAN AT THE DOOR...

YOU'RE ACTUALLY SUPPOSED TO EAT THOSE *WITH* THE PAPER!

...LISTEN TO ME, AND STAY CALM.

MY HANDS GOT SO STICKY...

AND THE PAPER ON THAT JELLY CANDY WAS SO HARD TO TAKE OFF...

...HM ...?

HUSH

CAN I HELP ...

C...

COMING! BE RIGHT THERE!

Y-YES, SIR!

WOULD YOU MIND HIDING WHILE I GET THE DOOR?

...SHE TOLD US WE'RE NOT SUPPOSED TO HAVE PARTIES. SHE MIGHT GET MAD.

I'LL HIDE HERE ...

YIPE, THAT'S HOT!! IS IT HELL?!

DON'T WORRY, MICHAEL. IT'S ACTUALLY HEAVEN!

HUH? THERE'S NO ONE...

WINCE

QUIT IT WITH THE KNOCK-AND-KNEEL PROSTRATION!!

JOLT

JOLT

JOLT

SEASON'S GREETINGS! HAPPY NEW YEAR, BUDDHA-SAMA!!!!

OH... HEY! THE BUDDHISTS ARE HERE!!

FWOOSH

"TOO" ...?

Oh! Buddha looks so happy.

WH- WHAT'S GOING ON? I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU'RE HERE, TOO!!

YOU REALLY STAR-TLED ME!

*A JAPANESE COFFEE CHAIN.

JACKET: SARIPUTRA

WE STOPPED AT A DOUTOR* BEFORE WE CAME HERE...

TOILET

...AND I LEARNED A DREADFUL TRUTH.

HUH? WHAT? WHAT'S WRONG?!

THE BATH-ROOM ...!!!

FATHER!! WHAT SHOULD I DO...?

EVEN RAHULA-KUN!

...

WASHROOM

THIS IS SO GREAT... SARIPU-TRA-KUN, ANANDA-KUN...

WELL, WELL, IF IT ISN'T THE ARCHAN-GELS!

JACKET: RAGORA

I KNOW WHAT YOU'RE THINKING AND YOU REALLY DON'T HAVE TO STAY IN THE BATH-ROOM—

THE BATH-ROOM ...

OH! RAHULA!

WASHRO

I...I DON'T THINK YOU CAN FIT ALL OF US IN THE LIVING ROOM...

THEY PLAY THE SOUNDS OF A BABBLING BROOK IN THE BACK-GROUND,

AND WHEN YOU'RE DONE, THEY CLEANSE YOUR BACK-SIDE WITH WARM WATER!!

THERE ARE TOILETS WITH LIDS THAT LIFT AUTOMATI-CALLY...

WARM TOILET SEATS...

GO ON, OPEN THIS DOOR AND LOOK INSIDE.

...DON'T WORRY, RAHULA.

THEY'VE TURNED A RESTROOM INTO A LUXURY EXPE-RIENCE... WHAT PLACE IS THERE FOR ME IN THIS WORLD NOW?!!

THE IMPORTANT THING IS THAT YOU'RE HAPPY, RAHULA ...

AHH, OF COURSE... I SHOULD HAVE EXPECTED NOTHING LESS OF MY FATHER'S TOILET!!

THE CLOYING SCENT OF AIR FRESH-ENER...

A SEAT THAT FEELS LIKE A BLADE OF ICE...

THE GUST OF COLD AIR THAT RUSHES OUT AS SOON AS IT'S OPENED...

WAIT, WAIT! IF YOU *ALL* TRY TO FIT IN THIS ROOM, THE FLOOR MIGHT FALL OUT!

WHOA! I JUST HEARD THE FLOOR CREAK!

B-BUT ARE YOU SURE THERE AREN'T TOO MANY PEOPLE?

OOHH! THAT'S HELPFUL. IF THE ANGELS DID THAT, THEIR WINGS WOULD BE EVERY-WHERE.

FWAH

FWAH

AH

FW

YES, SIR!

THAT WAY WE CAN CLEAR UP MORE SPACE...

SARI-PUTRA! ANANDA! RAHULA! I NEED YOU TO LEVITATE!

だんまり MUTE

OH, SORRY. WHEN MY DISCIPLES ARE LEVITATING, THEY'RE IN "EMPTINESS" MODE...

NO! WE CAN'T SIT SILENTLY AROUND A KOTATSU— THAT WOULD BE THE SADDEST NEW YEAR'S EVER!!

HUSH

YEAH! HOW ARE YOU DOING THAT?

THAT'S AMAZING! YOU'RE FLOATING WITHOUT WINGS!

DOES IT HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH YOUR LACK OF HAIR?

DON'T WORRY. THAT'S THE DEFAULT FOR MY ANGELS.

You're weirdly strict about stuff!!

NO, THEY TELL ME-ANDERING, POINTLESS STORIES, OR STOP IN THE MIDDLE OF SENTENCES ...

You don't want to put up with that.

WELL, TECHNICAL-LY, THEY CAN STILL TALK... BUT IT MIGHT BE KIND OF ANNOYING...

WHY? DO THEY START USING BAD WORDS?

OH... IN THAT CASE, WE BROUGHT ONE WITH US.

ふふふ FWAAAH

BUT IF IT BOTHERS YOU, DO YOU WANT TO PLAY A GAME OR SOMETHING?

IN FACT, *YOU* COULD STAND TO BE MORE LIKE THAT...

NOW WE CAN ALL SETTLE DOWN AND HAVE A GOOD TIME...

FSH

F-FSH

Something like this?

AND THEN YOU END UP WITH A WEIRD FACE, SO EVERYBODY LAUGHS...

I'll show you how to play.

Ohhh!!

HEH HEH... THEY SAY GOOD FORTUNE COMES TO HOMES FULL OF LAUGHTER ...

THE NORMALLY SENSIBLE SARIPUTTA-SAN IS TALKING LIKE A SPACED-OUT TEENAGER ...

IT'S CALLED "LUCKY LAUGH" OR SOMETHING, AND THEY... YOU KNOW... WITH THE STUFF, AND THE THINGS...

THOSE WHATEVER PEOPLE IN THE HEAVENLY OFFICE WERE ALL, "FOR A JAPANESE NEW YEAR'S CELEBRA-TION, I GUESS... YOU KNOW... WOULD BE A GOOD GAME OR WHATEVER."

So this is the "empti-ness" mode...

OH YEAH... THAT FACE PUZZLE YOU DO BLIND-FOLDED!

NO, ANANDA! YOU'VE SCARED THEM ALL STIFF!!

HUSH

阿難

JACKET: ANANDA

OH...

AH... AAAAAAH!!

HUH ...?

MAKE THE NUMBER OF FACES MATCH THE NORMAL NUMBER OF EARTH FACES!

HOW CAN YOU POSSIBLY THINK THAT FOUR FACES AND SIX HANDS WOULD NOT BE TOO SCARY FOR THIS GAME?!

ANYWAY.

WHEW. EVERYTHING'S FINALLY CALMED DOWN.

CHAT

CHAT

I THINK THIS IS THE FIRST TIME OUR PLACE HAS EVER BEEN SO LIVELY.

OKAY, I WANNA DO IT NEXT!!

G... GOOD IDEA. OKAY, HERE GOES...

HEH HEH...

THAT'S OKAY. WE'LL JUST MAKE SURE THE NUMBER OF FACIAL FEATURES MATCHES THOSE OF THE SONS OF MEN.

THEN IT WON'T BE SCARY.

MAYBE THIS IS WHAT NEW YEAR'S LOOKS LIKE IN JAPAN.

AND SHE SOUNDED KIND OF HAPPY WHEN SHE SAID IT...

MATSUDA-SAN SAYS THAT NEW YEAR'S IS ALWAYS A BUSY TIME WITH LOTS OF VISITORS.

OH, GOOD IDEA! I BET NONE OF THEM HAVE HAD IT BEFORE.

SATO MOCHI

JESUS, WILL YOU COOK THE MOCHI?

I KNOW, LET'S GET EVERYONE SOME AMAZAKE!

...

NOW I JUST NEED...

!!!!

LET'S SEE, WE HAVE FOUR ANGELS, AND THE DISCIPLES ARE...

One, two, three...

OKAY, THERE'S ENOUGH MOCHI FOR EVERYONE, INCLUDING US.

OH! SOMETHING SMELLS GOOD...

RIDICULOUS! ARE YOU SUGGESTING I WOULD CHEAT?

They're all on the smallest face!! ?

HEY... CAN YOU STILL SEE THE BOARD?

WHAT? IS THAT TRUE?

WE WERE TOLD IT WAS BAD MANNERS TO GO INSIDE A HOME ON A NEW YEAR'S VISIT! WE WERE SUPPOSED TO GO RIGHT HOME!!

O-OH NO!!

WHAT ?!

ACK! BUDDHA-SAMA IS STANDING IN THE KITCHEN!!

THIS IS SOMETHING ONLY JESUS CAN DO.

DO YOU NEED MORE MOCHI? IN THAT CASE, I COULD...

IT'S NOT THE MOCHI THAT WE'RE SHORT ON...

B-BUT ...

OH! GOOD IDEA. MAYBE IT'S TIME TO CHANGE INTO PJ'S.

I EVEN BROUGHT AN OVER-NIGHT BAG!

DON'T WORRY. THOSE ARE JUST *JAPANESE* MANNERS!

THEN I'LL SET THE TABLE!

OH, NO, WE'RE NOT READY TO SET THE TABLE YET.

WHAT? THAT'S OKAY. IT'S ALREADY DONE...

Let's get these neck ties off.

IN THAT CASE, BUDDHA-SAMA, PLEASE LET ME HELP WITH SOMETHING!

...IT'S DISHES.

HEY, I DID IT.

POOF

HE MIGHT NEED HELP WITH THE REVERSE MIRACLE...

OH, I KNOW! WOULD YOU BE SO KIND AS TO MAKE HIM EXTREMELY SAD?

THE ARCH-ANGELS LEARNED THAT THERE IS A REASON MANNERS EXIST.

WE'LL JUST BE EXCUSING OURSELVES NOW!!!

KA-KRAK!!

AFTER MENTALLY CLIMBING THE HILL TO GOLGOTHA THREE TIMES, I FINALLY GOT ONE BOWL...

Matsuda-san found them on their way home.

Those are kitchen rubber bands, so be careful not to pull your hair out when you take them off!!
Here, I'll give you hair clips and rubber bands!
There, ugh.
It's bad for your eyes!
Excuse me, boys! You need to cut your hair!!

CHAPTER 33 TRANSLATION NOTES

Waraimeshi,
Waraimeshi is a Japanese comedy duo consisting of Tetsuo Nakanishi and Kōji Nishida. They won the M-1 Grand Prix in 2010.

Amazake,
Literally "sweet sake," or "sweet rice wine," *amazake* is a popular New Year's drink that is very low in alcohol content—often low enough to be considered non-alcoholic.

New Year's money,
In Japan, it is customary for adults to give children gifts of money, called *otoshidama*, at the New Year.

Kadomatsu,
Literally "corner pine," a *kadomatsu* is a traditional decoration placed in front of the home at New Year's. It's usually made of pine, bamboo, and plum blossoms, and is set outside of homes to welcome gods and spirits that will bring blessings for the new year.

Jelly candies,
The candy in question is Botan Rice Candy—a chewy candy wrapped in edible rice paper.

Sharihotsu,
Buddha's disciples are all wearing jackets that have their names written on them in Chinese characters. In Japan, their names are represented by these same characters, but pronounced slightly differently. This translation will provided the Japanese names, because the series takes place in Japan. Sharihotsu is Sariputra, Anan is Ananda, and Ragora is Rahula.

New Year's visit,
Another Japanese New Year's tradition is to do a *nenshi mawari*, or start-of-the-year rounds, in which you visit friends, family, and neighbors to wish them a happy new year. With all the New Year's traditions to observe, it's a busy time of year, and so it would be rude to stay at one house for too long.

...THUS, MORTALS GAINED CIVILIZATION.

LUCIFER BROUGHT LIGHT AND FLAME, THE KNOWLEDGE OF GOD, TO MANKIND...

...THOU DEVIL...

...CAME THE THREAT OF FIRE.

BUT WITH CIVILIZATION...

I JUST TOOK MY EYES OFF OF IT FOR A SECOND...

WAIT, A DEVIL... IS IT LUCIFER-SAN?!

WHOA! WHAT'S THAT WEIRD SMELL?!

SMOKE ...!

SHIRT: ALL THINGS ARE SUFFERING

...AND REDUCE IT TO NOTHING?!!

YOU WOULD TAKE ALL I HAVE BUILT...

WHAT'S WRONG, JESUS?!

THE DEVIL ... TRULY DEMONIC ...!

THIS...

T..T!?...

JESUS, THAT'S —!!

I KNOW YOU'RE UPSET ABOUT LOSING YOUR DATA...

BUT I DON'T THINK YOU CAN BLAME THIS ONE ON LUCI-FER!

THIS DEVIL'S SNARE !!!

SAINT YOUNG MEN

Chapter 34

Saint Firemen

BUDDHA: HAS NEVER ONCE MANAGED TO SUCCESS-FULLY GET EYE DROPS INTO HIS EYES.

OH, COMING! WHO IS IT?

一切皆苦

DING DONG ピ ー ポ ー ポ ー ポ ー ポ ー

YOUR PC STARTS MAKING SOME *SCARY* NOISES ...

YEAH, WHEN YOU REALLY GET INTO DAEMON HUNTER,

I hope the guys are okay!

AND WE WERE SO CLOSE TO BEATING THAT REALLY HARD DEVIL IN DAEMON HUNTER!!

COME ON! WE ONLY HAVE FOUR OUTLETS IN OUR WALLS!

I BROUGHT SOMEONE.

NEVER MIND, THAT'S NOT WHY I'M HERE.

CLATTER

...M-M-MATSUDA-SAN!!

STOMP

STOMP

一切皆苦

BOFF

THERE'S A VERY STRANGE SMELL COMING FROM IN HERE.

IS SOME-THING WRONG?

CREAK

イ！

JESUS: HAS NEVER ONCE MANAGED TO CLEANLY REMOVE THE SHRINK WRAP FROM A CD.

HELLO, IT'S GOOD TO SEE YOU AGAIN! DO YOU REMEMBER ME FROM THE HUSTLING GRAND PRIX?

YOINK

THIS IS THE PRESIDENT OF THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE. HE WANTS TO TALK TO YOU.

IT LOOKS LIKE YOUR IMAGINATION'S RUNNING AWAY WITH YOU, JESUS!

HUH?

THEN I'LL BE HAPPY TO GIVE YOU MY CONTACT INFORMA-TION!

IF YOU'RE SCOUTING FOR A COMEDY AGENCY,

DING!

OH, YOU WERE THE EMCEE AT THAT EVENT AT THE SHOPPING STREET.

INRI

OH, JESUS, WHILE YOU'RE AT IT, COULD YOU CHANGE THIS BREAD BACK?

...AND HERE I THOUGHT SOMEONE HAD RECOGNIZED OUR TALENT!!

BUT THE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPART-MENT...

My Tachikawa dream...

VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPART-MENT...?

IT IS VOLUNTARY, AFTER ALL, SO HOW ABOUT JUST TRYING IT OUT FOR A DAY?

We need more young people.

A-OK!

OH, THAT'S QUITE ALL RIGHT!!

WE'RE ONLY IN TACHI-KAWA ON VACATION...

BUT... SOME PEOPLE ARE CUT OUT FOR THIS KIND OF WORK, AND SOME PEOPLE REALLY AREN'T.

A good way...?

YEAH, THAT'S TRUE...

INRI

LIKE, IF *WE* JOINED THE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPART-MENT...

THAT CANNOT BE THE ONLY THING YOU ASK OF ME...

PEACE ...?

You wear a lot of different hats, don't you, sir?

...THE WILL TO KEEP THE PEACE IN TACHI-KAWA!

AS LONG AS YOU HAVE THE HEART ...

INRI

ARE YOU SOME KIND OF INTER-NATIONAL ARSONIST?!

B-DUMP

...FOR I AM COME TO SEND FIRE ALL ACROSS THE EARTH!!

UH, YEAH, JESUS... YOU MEAN THAT IN A GOOD WAY, RIGHT?

...WOULD VANISH FROM TACHIKA-WA.

ALL FIRE...

YOU HAVE THAT MUCH FAITH IN YOUR-SELVES?!

WE'D CRACK DOWN ON SMOKERS EVEN HARDER THAN THEY DO IN CHIYODA...

LIKE, A SINGLE MATCH WOULD MOBILIZE THE WHOLE ARMY OF HEAVEN...

INRI

COAT: TACHIKAWA

AH, YES ... WELL, I'LL SEE YOU BOTH LATER...

YEAH. WELL, IF YOU'LL EXCUSE US...

MAY—

COAT: TACHIKAWA VFD, 3

KA-CHAK

WE'RE DOING EVERY-THING WE CAN...

...TO APPEAL TO THE YOUNGER FOLKS. WE UPDATED OUR UNIFORMS AND EVERYTHING...

HEY, OGATA-SAN. IF WE DON'T GET OUTTA HERE, WE'LL BE LATE.

BUT WE'RE SUPPOSED TO BE VOL-UNTEERING TO *HELP*.

You think so?

We're totally just doing this to kill time.

They want us to put out fires? That's hilarious.

IT MIGHT BE OKAY IF WE ACT LIKE WE DON'T REALLY WANT TO BE THERE...

O-OH, I UNDER-STAND... YOU HAVE YOUR REASONS.

OF COURSE THAT HITS JESUS RIGHT ON HIS EXOTIC JAPAN BUTTON!!

MAY I ASK WHAT YOU ARE WEARING?

OKAY, OUR NEW VOLUNTEERS ARE ON BOARD, RIGHT?

Oc-topus! Oc-topus!! Han-pen! Han-pen! E-egg! E-egg!

I THOUGHT THEY WERE GROUPS OF PEOPLE PROUDLY DECLARING THEIR FAVORITE ODEN INGREDIENTS AS PASSIONATELY AS THEY COULD...

Someday, I wanted to join the mochi-Kinchaku party.

YEAH, I REMEMBER THINKING, "I'VE NEVER SEEN THOSE INGREDIENTS BEFORE."

SO THESE ARE *FIREFIGHTER* OUTFITS. I SEE...

Ahh...

I'VE SEEN PEOPLE WEARING THEM ON TV...

UGH, YOU JUST CAN'T SAY NO TO A COSTUME, CAN YOU?

FIRES HAVE BROKEN OUT ALL OVER EDO!

HA HA HA. I'M GLAD SOMEONE SEES THE CHARM OF THE OLD UNIFORMS.

HM...?

OOH...!

YEAH, JUST BE YOURSELF AND WE'LL BE FINE.

I FIGURE WE'LL BE FINE AS LONG AS WE MAKE IT LOOK LIKE WE'RE JUST JUMPING ON THE BANDWAGON 'CAUSE IT LOOKED LIKE FUN.

AS FAR AS WHAT THE HEAVENS WILL BE LOOKING AT...

YEAH, YOU'LL DEFINITELY BE PULLING THAT.

I...I DON'T BELIEVE IT...!!

WH... WHAAAT!

AND YOU'LL LET US PULL OUT THIS YELLOW PIN?!!

YEAH, YOU'LL BE PRACTICING WITH THE FIRE EXTINGUISHER, TOO.

IS...IS THIS THE MYSTERIOUS RED OBJECT THEY KEEP IN THE CORNERS OF PLACES LIKE SUPERMARKETS?!

OH...!

A FRIEND OF MINE WAS PUTTING THOSE UP AT WORK...

Heh... heh heh, well? What do you think?

HERE'S ANOTHER ONE. THESE ARE FIRE ALARMS.

APPARENTLY HE HAD TO PUT UP ALARMS BECAUSE SPARKS FROM THE FIERY HELLS CAN SPREAD PRETTY EASILY...

YOU KNOW, YAMA-SAN.

OH, NO, IT WAS IN HELL.

WHAT? ARE THERE FIRES IN THE HEAVENS?

YOU'LL GET HANDS-ON EXPERIENCE WITH ALL OF THE FIRE-FIGHTING EQUIPMENT.

I THINK THIS IS HOW MICHAEL-SAN WOULD FEEL IF WE TOLD HIM, "SURE, YOU CAN PLAY THAT TRUMPET!"

...IT HAD A SOOTHING EFFECT ON THE PRISONERS IN THE REALMS OF PUNISH-MENT.

HONK HONK HONK

Will all nearby oni and sinners proceed immediately to exit B...

Fire. Fire. Fire has spread outside the limits of Fire Mountain.

BUT THEN WHEN A FIRE BROKE OUT AND THE ANNOUNCE-MENT CAME ON...

AND THEN, FOR GOOD MEASURE...

SO HE CHANGED THE ANNOUNCE-MENT TO MAKE IT FIT WITH THE WHOLE DAMNATION THEME...

YEAH, I'M PRETTY SURE THAT JUST MAKES HIM A TSUNDERE!

BWA-SHAAHH

HE STARTED USING RED WATER IN THE SPRIN-KLERS...

HA HA HA. I CAN SEE HOW YOU TWO WON THE HUSTLING GRAND PRIX!

WHEN YOU SEE HIM OUTSIDE, HIS SKIN IS SURPRISINGLY PALE.

That's some Hell trivia for you.

So hot!!

In

Out

OH, THAT'S ONLY BECAUSE HELL IS SO HOT.

YAMA-SAN'S THAT GUY WITH THE RED SKIN, RIGHT?

WHAT? BUT THIS IS SO SUDDEN... WE DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT HOW TO...

YOU SAY, "BEWARE OF FIRE"! WANNA TRY IT?

CLACK

CLACK

MAYBE WE'LL HAVE YOU DO THE FIRE SAFETY WARNING.

ALL RIGHT, SINCE YOU'RE THAT GOOD WITH WORDS,

UH.

TEST, TEST...

ALL RIGHT, SON, YOU CLAP THESE TOGETHER.

THEN GO WITH THAT!

BEWARE OF FIRE...

IN OUR DAY, THEY WOULD ALWAYS SAY, "ALL IT TAKES IS ONE MATCH TO BURN A HOUSE DOWN."

THAT'S OKAY.

IF IT'S THE SAME EVERY TIME, PEOPLE WON'T PAY ATTENTION TO IT.

THERE IS SOMETHING I SAW HAPPENING IN JAPAN ONCE!

AND I WISHED PEOPLE WOULD BE CAREFUL ABOUT IT!!

...OH!

OH, BUT I GUESS YOU DO THINGS DIFFERENTLY BACK WHERE YOU'RE FROM...

BUT YOU CAN JUST SAY SOME-THING THAT YOU'RE CAREFUL ABOUT ...

...TO GET YOU BURNED ALIVE!

ALL IT TAKES IS ONE HIDDEN CROSS OR BIBLE ...

IF THEY GIVE YOU A *FUMI-E*, STEP ON IT IMMEDIATELY!

DO... DO YOU HEAR ME, EVERY-ONE...?

CHRISTIANS DON'T HAVE TO HIDE IN THIS COUNTRY ANYMORE!!!

IT'S OKAY, JESUS ...

TAC

CLACK

CLACK

YOU DON'T WANT TO BE BURNED TO DEATH!!

YOU CAN USE ME AS A DOOR-MAT TO WIPE YOUR FEET—I DON'T MIND!!!

EVEN IF YOU TRAMPLE ON ME IN PERSON, I WON'T GET MAD, I PROMISE!

I WANT TO TRY THE MEGA-PHONE, JESUS!

UH, I'LL DO THE NEXT ONE!

YOU MUST FLEE AS FAST AS YOU CAN!

WHEN THE SPARKS START TO FLY,

...IS THAT A FIRE REGULATION FROM YOUR HOMELAND, SON?

MAN, IT SURE DOES SOUND BETTER COMING FROM A YOUNG VOICE...

...HM?

HE SAYS IT LIKE HE'S RECITING A SUTRA...

BEEEWAAARE OF FIIIRE. AAALL IIIT TAAAKES IIIS OOONE MAAATCH!

WE'LL NEED YOUR HELP, BOYS!!

GET THE HOSE!!

Y—

YOU WANT THE HOSE, RIGHT?!

IT'S A FIRE!!!

BEGIN EXTIN-GUISHING MANEU-VERS!!!

AH?

...

WHERE'S THE HOSE...?

OH! THERE! IS THIS IT?!

TACHIKAWA

PURR PURR PURR PURR

RUFFLE RUFFLE RUFFLE RUFFLE

THERE, THERE, THEEERE. THERE, THERE, THERE.

THEEERE, THERE, THERE.

BAP BAP

...

UM...

YOU GUYS *ARE* REALLY ARE STRICT...

IT'S A MIRACLE THAT IT'S HERE AT ALL.

WELL, A DRAGON'S REAL JOB IS BASICALLY TO JUST RAIN ON MY PARADE WHEN I'M GETTING TOO FULL OF MYSELF.

NOT WITH EVERYTHING, AND WHEN THEY GO SOFT, THEY GO *SOFT*.

YES, IT WORKED!!

SPLOOOSH

WAIT, WHAT? IS THAT WHAT YOU HAVE TO DO TO GET THE WATER OUT?!

FWOOOOM

ゴオオオオ

B-BACKUP SHOULD BE HERE SOON...

W-WE DIDN'T BRING THE PROTECTIVE GEAR!

TEP TEP TEP TEP TEP

Somebody help!

WHAT! OH NO! THERE'S SOMEBODY IN THERE!!

OH, BUT THAT'S A GOOD POINT! I NEED TO LET THE HEAVENS KNOW I'M NOT PLAYING AROUND, EITHER.

OH, DON'T WORRY, I'LL BE ALL RIGHT.

NO! YOU CAN'T GO IN THERE WITHOUT ANY GEAR!!

...BOYS?!!

DON'T GO— IT'S OKAY!! YOU WON'T SAVE ANYONE IF YOU DIE.

WH...WHAT DO I DO? I...

...HOW IS THAT SUPPOSED TO BE REASSURING?!!

IF I BURN UP...

TACHIKA

I'VE DONE ALL KINDS OF ASCETIC TRAINING...

...AND YOU MAY REST ASSURED THAT SEVERAL INVOLVED FIRE!!

C-COME BACK TO LIFE?!

...THEN I WON'T HAVE A BODY TO COME BACK TO AFTER I DIE!

IS...IS THIS WHAT VIDEO GAMES DO TO YOUR BRAIN?!

AAAHH! YOU IDIOT!!

DASH

NNNGH! THERE'S A LOST LAMB IN THERE!!

THIS IS NOTHING— I CAN HANDLE IT.

Y-YEAH! IT'S OKAY...!

NOD NOD

HUH? JESUS? YOU CAME, TOO?

YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO...

LOOK WHO'S TALKING, HASHTAG-FLAMING-SHOUL-DERS-BUDDHA !!

BESIDES, I HAVE THE DRAGON WITH ME, SO I'M FINE. SERIOUSLY...

A-ANYWAY, WE HAVE TO SAVE...

SPLOOOSH

Oh, thanks.

OH! THERE SHE IS, BUDDHA!!

IF IT'S NOT TOO MUCH FOR JOAN OF ARC-CHAN, IT'S NOT TOO MUCH FOR *ME!*

SOB SOB SOB SOB

YOU *EXPECT* TO BURN UP?! THEN YOU *REALLY* SHOULDN'T BE HERE!!

HURRY!! YOU WANT TO END YOUR SUFFERING, DON'T YOU?!!

IF YOU CAN GET TO US, WE CAN PULL YOU OUT!!

OH...?

MA'AM !!

STAND UP!! COME OVER HERE!!

...I CAN'T DECIDE...

...OR HEAVEN.

Heaven

Pure land

THE PURE LAND ...

YOU'RE NOT IN THE AFTER-LIFE YET, MA'AM!!

THIS PASSING IS MORE THAN I DESERVE...

TO THINK THAT MESSENGERS FROM BOTH WOULD COME TO RECEIVE ME.

CLANG
カーン
CLANG
カーン
CLANG
WAAH
WAAH
CLANG
カーン
CLANG
カーン
ウウウ
ERRRT

HMMM...

Certificate of Appreciation
In recognition of
Sei Iesu-sama, Sei Buddha-sama

Who, in the year Heisei 22 (2010), assisted in rescue efforts by going to the aid of a victim who was endangered by a fire that broke out in Tachikawa City.

Your meritorious deeds are truly remarkable. We present you this certificate to commemorate the event and express our gratitude.

Heisei 22 Tachikawa City Fire Department
Tachikawa Fire Chief

IN THE HEAVENS, HELPING IS JUST PART OF THE DAILY ROUTINE.

... THAT'S NEW.

RECEIVING A REWARD FOR HELPING SOMEONE.

YEAH, I HAD THE SAME THOUGHT...

WHERE WAS IT?

RIGHT, THAT LOOK.

I FEEL LIKE I'VE SEEN IT BEFORE...

YEAH! BUT SHE WAS SO UNSURE... AND THE LOOK ON HER FACE.

Heh heh heh.

BUT I'M GLAD THAT LADY WAS OKAY.

COMPE-TITION BETWEEN CELL PHONE PROVID-ERS IS FIERCE.

YEAH. THIS IS THE PLACE ...

THIS IS WHERE I SAW IT...

Cell Phones

YODOBASHI CAMERA

Soft Bank

au KDDI

docomo

THREE DAYS LATER ...

OH.

Eventually selected the Pure Land, because he looks a little like the *enka* singer Kiyoshi.

CHAPTER 34 TRANSLATION NOTES

Lucifer the light-bringer,
Because the name means "light-bringer," and because it was Lucifer who beguiled Eve into partaking of the fruit of the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil, there are some schools of thought that see Lucifer not as an evil devil, but as a symbol of enlightenment. In that sense, he can be compared to Prometheus, who is known in Greek mythology for stealing fire (another symbol of enlightenment) from the heavens and giving it to mankind.

All things are suffering,
This is one of the three marks of existence in Buddhism, which state that all things are impermanent, and attachment to them would lead to suffering.

Devil's snare,
In Japanese, the power splitter that allows you to plug more appliances into one wall outlet is called a *tako-ashi*, which literally means "octopus foot," presumably because the wall begins to look like an octopus with various cable tentacles. In keeping with that, when the numbers of wires gets to be unruly, it is named after a specific kind of octopus—the devilfish.

INRI,
These letters are the initials for *Iesus Nazarenus, Rex Iudaeorum*, which is Latin for "Jesus of Nazareth, King of the Jews." Pontius Pilate had the phrase written on a board and placed over Jesus's cross in accordance with a practice of informing passersby the identity of a crucified criminal, as well as the nature of their crime. The leaders of the Jewish people demanded that Pilate change the inscription to indicate that Jesus had only claimed the title of King, but Pilate refused. In alchemy, the acronym is also used to stand for *Igne Natura Renovatur Integra*, which means "by fire, nature renews itself."

Come to send fire on the earth,
In Luke 12:49, Jesus says, "I am come to send fire on the earth; and what will I, if it be already kindled?"

Cracking down on smokers in Chiyoda,
Chiyoda Ward in Tokyo was the first municipality in Japan to enact a smoking ban, imposing a fine of 2,000 yen (about $20) on anyone caught smoking in non-designated areas.

The oden party,
The food-shaped beacons being waved by these firefighters are *matoi*—a kind of banner used during the Edo era to signal to the other firefighters which building or area is on fire. The *matoi-mochi*, or standard-bearer, would take the *matoi* to the roof of the building and wave it to catch the attention of the others. Each brigade had its own *matoi*, and often there would be a race to see who could get to the fire first. Unaware of this history, our protagonists see the resemblance to ingredients in the Japanese hot pot dish called *oden.*

Yama,
Known as Enma in Japanese, Yama is the king of hell, and it's his job to make sure sinners are appropriately punished for the wrongs they committed in life.

Fire safety warning,
One of the precautions taken in Japan against fire is to remind the citizens to be careful. Volunteers walk (or drive) around town and get people's attention with the clappers seen in Ogata's hands, then say, "*Hi no yoooojin*," meaning "beware of fire." Sometimes additional messages or tips will be given as well. The method may seem old fashioned because it dates back to the Edo period (1603 - 1868).

All it takes is one cross,

As mentioned in the notes to volume two, Christians in Japan were persecuted during the Edo Era, and sometimes identified by their reluctance to step on a *fumi-e* "trample picture" representing Jesus Christ or the Virgin Mary. Eventually Christians did start stepping on them, believing that they could pray for forgiveness. While many think that the hidden Christians (or *Kakure Kirishitan*) either died out or joined mainstream Christianity when the religion was again legalized in Japan, the faith still has some communities in Nagasaki.

Joan of Arc,

Joan of Arc is a national hero of France who received divine revelation that helped her lead her homeland to a series of important military victories in the Hundred Years War. She was burned at the stake for heresy and later sainted.

Flaming shoulders Buddha,

The *Amida Sutra* contains a list of many buddhas, including one named Arciskandha, which means "flaming shoulders." Additionally, the Buddha is often depicted with flaming shoulders as a symbol of his powers.

SAINT☆YOUNG MEN

COMMEMORATING CHRIST'S RESURRECTION ON THE THIRD DAY AFTER HE DIED ON THE CROSS.

EASTER IS ONE OF THE BIGGEST CHRISTIAN HOLY DAYS,

THIS IS ALWAYS THE MOST FUN TIME OF YEAR.

WE MAKE A BIG DEAL OF IT UP IN THE HEAVENS, TOO...

OH! THAT MIGHT BE THEM!

I'LL GET IT!!

DING DONG

SO IT'S ALWAYS REALLY EXCITING.

HUH, SO IT'S TODAY THIS YEAR? YOUR SECOND BIRTHDAY.

YEAH. PERSONALLY, I THINK I LOOK FORWARD TO IT EVEN MORE THAN MY FIRST BIRTHDAY...

...MY DISCIPLES TRY TO SURPRISE ME EVERY YEAR.

...WAS IT A PACKAGE DELIVERY?

SHUT

...UH, NO...

NOW, IF YOU'LL JUST STAMP RIGHT HERE...

THEY FIT THEIR ENTIRE MESSAGE IN JUST FOUR LETTERS?!

FROM MY DISCIPLES. IT SAYS, "TGIE"...

IT WAS A TEDDY-GRAM...

Gram

SAINT YOUNG MEN

Chapter 35

Holy Second Birthday

...MAYBE YOUR DISCIPLES ARE JUST DOING AS THE JAPANESE DO?

WELL, WE ARE IN JAPAN...

BUT IS THAT *ALL*...? THAT CAN'T BE RIGHT...

IT'S CUTE ...

...AND IT *IS* TECHNI-CALLY A BUNNY..

SHIRT: JATAKA

SO THEY WOULDN'T REALLY GET THAT EXCITED OVER *ONE* REBIRTH... YOU KNOW?

I MEAN, JAPAN'S VIEWS ARE REALLY MORE ABOUT THE *CYCLE* OF DEATH AND REBIRTH.

Could you help get him in the right mindset?

We want to surprise him.

BUT THE TRUTH IS, YOUR DISCIPLES ASKED ME TO HELP THEM...

...THAT TEDDY-GRAM IS ACTUALLY A DECOY!!

NNGH...! I'M SORRY, JESUS...!

OH... YEAH. I GUESS YOU'RE RIGHT...

I DON'T MEAN IT. THE WAY YOU RESURRECTED WAS SO AWESOME IT'S PRACTICALLY ILLEGAL!

...WHAT ?!

...

I MUST MAKE HIM THINK THERE IS NO EASTER THIS YEAR, BEFORE PETER-SAN AND ANDREW-SAN GET HERE!!

I HAVE A MISSION TO SET A MOOD.

BUT WHEN I LOOK AT IT THAT WAY...

...REINCARNATION DOES KINDA SOUND LIKE FUN.

URGH! HOW CAN HE SMILE LIKE THAT WHEN HE MUST BE SO SAD INSIDE?

UH... YEAH, IT *IS* FUN!

YOU JUST KEEP BUILDING UP YOUR VIRTUE LEVEL UNTIL YOU REACH THE GOAL OF NIRVANA...

YOU GET TO LIVE ALL THOSE DIFFERENT LIVES...

SO DO YOU REMEMBER ANY OF YOUR PAST LIVES?

AND THE TIME I WAS A KING NAMED SIBI...

IF I DON'T EAT THIS DOVE, I'LL DIE!!

I UNDERSTAND. THEN EAT THE FLESH OF MY ARM!!

WHOOSH

AND THE TIME I WAS A RABBIT ...

I'M SO HUNGRY, I THINK I'LL DIE...

WHOOSH

NOW'S MY CHANCE! YOU CAN EAT *ME*!!

THERE WAS THE TIME I WAS A KING...

I CAN'T SEE. WOULD YOU GIVE ME ONE OF YOUR EYES?

SURE, NO PROBLEM! YOU CAN HAVE BOTH!

PLUCK

PLUCK

HMM... I DON'T HAVE ANY MEMORY OF THAT, BUT I FEEL LIKE HE WAS.

HERE, YOU CAN EAT MY FACE!!!

Waaah! I'm hungry!

...SO DO YOU THINK ANPANMAN WAS ONE OF YOUR PAST LIVES, TOO?

BUT IT WAS SUCH A PAINFUL EXPERIENCE ...

NNNGH!!

STING

WHEN I LOOK AT IT THAT WAY, I ONLY DIED ONCE...

BUT SERI-OUSLY ...

AND THE RUMORS OF MY DEATH SPREAD SO FAST...

MOM AND MY DISCIPLES ALL CRIED SO HARD ...

I MEAN, IF I HAD TO DESCRIBE THE RESUR-RECTION...

AT THE TIME, I COULDN'T HELP THINKING THAT DAD WAS AWFULLY CRUEL...

JESUS ...

...OF COURSE IT WAS! OF *COURSE* IT WAS PAINFUL!

AND KNOWING YOU, IT MUST HAVE BEEN SO HARD MAKING ALL THOSE PEOPLE SAD...

YEAH... PERSONALLY, I THINK ONCE IS ENOUGH FOR SOMETHING LIKE THAT.

Starting today, I'm going to lead a normal life!!

Thank you, everyone... Thank you for everything...

IT WAS LIKE GIVING A FAREWELL CONCERT TO A FULL HOUSE AT TOKYO DOME...

...AND HOLDING A REVIVAL CONCERT THREE DAYS LATER.

Huh...? I... I'm sorry.

... belong ...

I realized this is where I truly ...

Hey, everybody... I'm back ...!

Okay, here we go... I'm coming out.

B-DUMP

B-DUMP

B-DUMP

Okay. On three... Get ready. Okay, ten more seconds...

IT *WOULD* TAKE A LOT OF COURAGE TO LEAVE THAT DRESSING ROOM— I MEAN, TOMB!

IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO EVEN IMAGINE THE LEVEL OF AWKWARDNESS...

BUDDHA: HAS NEVER SEEN ANYONE FLY ON A FLIGHT OF STAIRS.

WHY? WERE YOU WORKING ON SOME-THING?

MAYBE. BUT I NEEDED THOSE THREE DAYS...

WOULDN'T IT HAVE BEEN EASIER TO RESURRECT JUST ONE DAY LATER?

JESUS: CAN SEE THAT JAMES BOND WOULD SEEM PRETTY WEAK IF DOUBLE-O SEVEN WERE PRO-NOUNCED ZERO-ZERO-SEVEN.

BUT YOUR PHYSICAL WOUNDS HEALED INSTANTLY.

Well... There's Judas... he sold me out... And Peter denied me thrice...

All right, Jesus-sama... I want you to list everything that's bothering you.

NO, I HAD TO SEE RAPHAEL FOR SOME THERAPY...

I GUESS THEY FINALLY FIGURED IT OUT WHEN THEY SAW HOW I TORE THE BREAD...

MARY MISTOOK ME FOR THE GARDENER ...

WHAT! BUT WHY WOULDN'T THEY ...?!

NO, THAT'S THE THING, BUDDHA...

B-BUT, HEY, ON THE OTHER HAND, SEEING HOW HAPPY EVERYONE CHEERED YOU RIGHT UP, I'M SURE...

FOR SOME REASON, NO ONE EVER KNEW IT WAS ME WHEN THEY SAW ME.

BECAUSE THE INSIDE IS THE MAIN COURSE, AND THE CRUST IS DESSERT.

THAT'S RIGHT.

Main Course

Dessert

RIGHT, BECAUSE YOU ALWAYS TEAR THE CRUST OFF A ROLL AND EAT THE INSIDE FIRST.

THEN YOU EAT THE CRUST...

THERE... THERE'S NO DOUBT ABOUT IT...

MURMUR

CLINK

CLINK

AAH! HE ATE IT!

MURMUR

...HAVE YE HERE ANY MEAT?

UH, WE HAVE BROILED FISH...

SO I SAID TO THEM...

SOME OF THEM STILL WEREN'T REALLY GETTING IT.

...IT *MUST* JESUS-SAMA!!

What are the odds ...?!

And he actually got a bone stuck in his throat?

There's so much left...

LOOK AT HOW CLUMSILY HE TAKE TAKES THE MEAT OFF THE BONE...

DING DONG

PETER-SAN, HURRY ...!!

I CAN'T WATCH THIS ANY LONGER ...

J-JESUS ...

Waaah! Bread! Bring me some bread!

HELLO. IS THIS CASH ON DELIVERY ?

KA-CHAK

WHAT A RELIEF. NOW...

NNNGH ...

HEY, IT'S AMAZON! GO GET THE DOOR, JESUS!

THEY'RE HERE!!

WOBBLE

WOBBLE

AND THEN THOMAS *STILL* WOULDN'T BELIEVE ME. HE CAME AND SHOVED HIS FINGERS IN MY SIDE...

IT'S TRUE, SEEING HIM AT MEALTIMES IS LIKE WATCHING A KID STUCK AT SCHOOL FINISHING AN ART PROJECT...

I think he was worse at eating fish than that, but maybe...?

I dunno...

NNNGH... THINKING ABOUT IT IS MAKING ME SAD...

...THE SURPRISE PARTY IS A SUCCESS...

WE, PETER AND ANDREW, HAVE CONVERTED TO BUDDHA-SAMA'S FAITH.

...JESUS-SAMA, AS OF TODAY,

*SEE CHAPTER 28, THE SAINTLY NETWORK

SO, WE SHAVED OUR HEADS, AS YOU CAN SEE...

JUST A—HEY! JESUS-SAMA! LOOK AT ME!!

GLANCE

GLANCE

...AHA!

WAIT. DIDN'T BUDDHA-SAMA TELL YOU?

HUH?!

... WHAT ...?

JUST A...

GLANCE

GLANCE

WE WERE JUST SO MOVED WHEN HE SAID *PIAO*" TO US.

HEY, NO FAIR, THAT WAS WAY TOO FAST!!!

CLATTER カ"A

CLATTER ナAAY

CLATTER

THERE'S THE CAMERA !!!

NO, *THIS* IS HOW WE CELEBRATE EASTER IN THE HEAVENS.

HUH ...?

WHAT IS ALL THIS? I THOUGHT WE WERE CELEBRATING EASTER.

HEH HEH HEH... YOU'LL NEVER GET ME!

WHAT ...?

AWWW, I WAS SO SURE IT WAS GONNA WORK THIS YEAR.

WELL, IT REALLY WORKED ON *ME*!!!

SO THIS IS THE DAY WE TRY TO PRANK HIM BACK.

THAT RESURRECTION NEARLY KILLED US WITH SURPRISE.

SORRY. AFTER ALL YOUR HELP, IT DIDN'T EVEN WORK...

UGH, YOU GAVE ME A HEART ATTACK!!

OH, WE BORROWED THESE ROBES FROM SARIPUTRA-SAN.

YEAH, SORRY, ABOUT THAT BUDDHA-SAMA. WE SHOULD HAVE EXPLAINED BETTER.

I THOUGHT THE JOKE WAS REALLY CLOSE TO CROSSING THE LINE...

YEAH. IF I WAS WILLING TO CONVERT, I WOULDN'T HAVE DIED A MARTYR.

I MEAN, COME ON. YOU "CONVERTED"? YOU KNOW I'D NEVER BELIEVE THAT.

x 153

...WE WENT FOR A LONG TIME WITHOUT EVER KNOWING WHAT THAT WAS.

BWOH BWOH BWOH

IT SAT ON OUR HEADS, WE GOT EXCITED, AND WE HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO CALM DOWN SINCE.

...WHEN THAT FIRE OR WHATEVER IT WAS CAME FROM HEAVEN,

REALLY? WHAT IS IT?

WHAT? FOR REAL?

That's legit!

BUT YOU KNOW, I FINALLY FIGURED IT OUT THE OTHER DAY.

I THINK IT WAS...

BELIEVE IT OR NOT, THEY WERE SUPER COOL DURING MY MINISTRY.

SORRY FOR FREAKING YOU OUT...

...BUT I GUESS THEY CAN JOKE LIKE THAT BECAUSE THEY TRUST EACH OTHER.

YEAH, WELL, YOU KNOW...

WOULD YOU STOP INSINUATING THAT YOU WERE SHINING YOUR BRIGHTEST BECAUSE OF A STATUS EFFECT?!

HEY, YOU MIGHT BE RIGHT.

...THE STATUS EFFECT ICON.

Panic

Berserk

PETEY

WELL, I GUESS THE HEAVENS MIGHT HAVE MESSED WITH YOUR GAME BALANCE A LITTLE ...

BUT ANY-WAY...

BEING ABLE TO TAKE THAT MANY HITS AND SURVIVE—IT WAS PRACTICALLY A CHEAT CODE.

BUT, COME ON. WE WERE WAY TOO INVINCIBLE, YOU KNOW?

I MEAN, YOUR RESURRECTION?

YOU'LL ALWAYS BE OUR GREATEST TEACHER.

...OH, MAN, THAT BRINGS BACK MEMORIES, YOU CALLING ME TEACHER...

HMMM, I DUNNO. I THINK RESURRECTION WOULD BE PRETTY DIFFICULT TO TEACH, EVEN FOR A LV. 99 KINPACHI-SENSEI.

YEAH. PEOPLE COULD USE THAT KIND OF CHUTZPAH...

I THINK WE NEED TO INCORPORATE THAT INTO MODERN EDUCATION.

...YOU WERE THE TEACHER WHO CHANGED OUR WORTHLESS LIVES FOR THE BETTER.

WE TRULY CAN'T THANK YOU ENOUGH.

WHAT?! REALLY?!

AND I'VE HIDDEN SOME EASTER EGGS!

THE TRUTH IS, I EVEN MADE YOU A SPECIAL DINNER.

HA HA, YEAH. SORRY I HAD TO DO THAT...

ANYWAY, IS THIS WHY YOU WERE BEING SO COLD ABOUT THE WHOLE EASTER THING, BUDDHA?

LET'S SEE...

AHA!!

PLEASE, GO AHEAD.

THAT'S LEGIT!

MIND IF WE LOOK FOR THEM?!

ON SALE

e.jp/

DVD

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1

It's all about the earlobes

How can I gain enlightenment ...?

Hmmm, I just don't know.

BUDDHA-SAMA, IS THIS A...?

HEH HEH HEH. YOU'LL HAVE TO LOOK HARD FOR THE LAST EGG!

AND I FOUND THE THIRD ONE! IT WAS BEHIND THE CURTAIN!

OH! HERE IT IS! THE SECOND PANEL!!

OH MAN! I HAVE TO SEE WHAT HAPPENS NEXT!

THINGS ALWAYS TURN INTO BIG PROJECTS WHEN YOU GET LOST IN WORK MODE, DON'T THEY!

I drew all the screentone by hand.

I HID FOUR EGGS, AND WHILE I WAS AT IT, I MADE THEM INTO A GAG COMIC...

I REALLY PUT A LOT OF WORK INTO THE PUNCH...

SPARKLE キラ

SPARKLE キラ

キラ SPARKLE

キラ SPARKLE

ジャーダカ

...LINE...

SKREE!!

HA HA HA...

BUT AT LEAST TELL ME IF IT WAS A SURREAL GAG OR AN ORTHODOX ONE!

THIS TRULY SHOWS THE IMPERMANENCE OF ALL THINGS!

Heh heh heh.

WATCHING YOU TWO FILLS MY AGAPE GAUGE.

WAIT, NOW I HAVE TO KNOW THE PUNCHLINE! YOU CAN JUST TELL ME!

SORRY. I PUT SO MUCH HEART INTO IT, IT HATCHED...

BEING FORCED TO EXPLAIN A GAG IS A PRETTY HIGH LEVEL OF ASCETICISM.

REALLY, THANKS FOR EVERYTHING TODAY.

SKFF スッ

WE'LL HAVE A FUN REPORT TO GIVE THE OTHERS.

WE HAVE JAMES AND JOHN COVERING OUR SHIFT...

NO, WE ACTUALLY STILL HAVE WORK TO DO.

Join us for Daemon Hunter sometime, Buddha-sama.

YEAH, YOU SHOULD STAY.

WHAT? YOU'RE LEAVING ALREADY ?!

I MADE ENOUGH DINNER FOR ALL OF US...

YEAH. WE DIDN'T EVEN GET TO PULL OUT OUR "GOTCHA" SIGN THIS TIME...

HA HA HA!

WE *WILL* SURPRISE YOU NEXT YEAR! COUNT ON IT!

OH. THEN I GUESS YOU HAVE TO GO...

KA-CHAK

YEAH, WE DID!

WAIT, WHAT? YOU BROUGHT SOMEBODY ELSE WITH YOU?!

SORRY! WE FORGOT ALL ABOUT YOU...

...AH. OH NO...

DASH

WE TOLD HIM TO JUMP OUT WHEN WE SAID, "WE GOT YOU BIG TIME!"

GAH... WE FORGOT ALL ABOUT HIM!!

...HUH? WHAT'S WRONG?

OH NO! AND HE'S BEEN OUTSIDE ALL THIS TIME? BUT IT'S STILL COLD!

I'M SORRY FOR BEING JUDAS.

THAT'S OKAY, I'M JUST A NOBODY.

WE GOT YOU BIG TI

...YOU REALLY GOT ME WITH THAT ONE—IT SHOCKED ME TO MY VERY CORE.

...WHEN YOU SAID, "GOOD WERE IT FOR THAT MAN (ME) IF HE HAD NEVER BEEN BORN"...

I MEAN, I WASN'T EVEN THERE FOR THE RESUR-RECTION SURPRISE.

OH, BUT ...

YOU WOULDN'T WANT ME AROUND ON A SPECIAL DAY LIKE TODAY... WOULD YOU.

HEH HEH... ACTU-ALLY, I'M GLAD I DIDN'T IN-TRUDE.

STOMP

STOMP

THE THREE OF THEM ALL STAYED FOR DINNER.

HOLD ON! HOW MUCH OF THAT WAS A JOKE?!

...HUH...? NO, WAIT A...

HA HA HA HA HA! I ONLY JUST GOT HERE! HA HA HA HA!

DOUBLE GOTCHA!

...JUST KIDDING! WE GOT YOU!!

Sit on my right side, Judas!!!

It's okay. I'm still traumatized from the last supper where I shared a table with Jesus-sama anyway, so it's actually better this way.

Oh, you only have four chairs for your table. That won't be enough. I'll eat on the floor, of course. I'm just Judas (lol).

CHAPTER 35 TRANSLATION NOTES

It's today this year,

Christ's Resurrection took place at the time of Passover, which was celebrated on the first full moon after the first day of spring. Because full moons do not occur on the same dates every year, the date for the Passover, as well as the date for Easter, vary from year to year.

Jataka,

The Jataka tales are stories of the various past lives of Gautama Buddha before becoming enlightened.

153 fishes,

After Christ's death, Peter thought he would give up the ministry and go back to his life as a fisherman. While he was having a particularly difficult time fishing, the Resurrected Lord appeared and told him to cast his nets on the right side of the boat, which he did and promptly caught several large fish. When they were brought to shore and counted, the number came out to 153. The number is believed to be symbolic, but no definitive evidence has been found to explain what the symbol may be.

Buddha's past lives,

These are all references to the Jataka tales. The stories are as shown, although there are different variations in each of the tales. For example, the king mentioned in the first story is King Vessantara in some versions and King Sibi in others. King Vessantara was known for his generosity in giving away everything he had. King Sibi is definitely the king in the tale of the falcon and dove (or sparrow), in which he offers up his own flesh to protect both of his subjects, the birds. More details on the story of the rabbit can be found in the notes to volume one (Chapter 5, “cat barbecue”).

Anpanman,

Anpanman is a Japanese superhero who has a head made of anpan—bread (pan) filled with sweet red bean paste (anko). When he comes across a starving creature, he will help them by generously offering a piece of his own head. This weakens him, but he regains energy when Uncle Jam bakes him a new head.

Why? Were you working on something?,

According to the First Epistle of Peter, “For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit: By which also he went and preached unto the spirits in prison.”

No one ever knew it was me,

After Jesus had risen, Mary Magdalene stood outside his empty tomb, crying and wondering what had become of his body. Jesus appeared and asked her why she was crying. She believed he was the gardener and asked if he had taken the body, and only recognized him after he called her by her name. Additionally, there is a story of two disciples who met Jesus as they traveled to Emmaus, discussing the recent crucifixion of the master teacher. The account says that “their eyes were holden,” or prevented, from recognizing him. They eventually had dinner with him, and when he broke bread with them, “their eyes were opened” and they finally realized it was him.

Have ye here any meat,

When the disciples from the road to Emmaus told the Apostles about their experience, Jesus appeared to all of them. This frightened them, because they thought he might be a ghost. To prove that he was indeed alive, not only in spirit but in body as well, he asked for food.

Fire from heaven,

This is a reference to what is known as the Day of Pentecost. The apostles had gathered to celebrate the Feast of Weeks, seven weeks (50 days) after Passover. "And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance," (Acts 2:2-4).

Kinpachi-sensei,

Kinpachi-sensei is the hero of the 1979 TV drama, *San-nen B-gumi Kinpachi-sensei,* or *Mr. Kinpachi of Class 3B.* He was a middle-school teacher who helped his students deal with difficult issues such as teenage pregnancy, suicide, etc.

Good were it for that man,

For context, the whole quote is as follows: "The Son of man indeed goeth, as it is written of him: but woe to that man by whom the Son of man is betrayed! Good were it for that man if he had never been born." (Mark 14:21) It was spoken by Jesus to his Apostles before Judas's betrayal.

SAINT☆YOUNG MEN

...WAS WELCOMED INTO THE HEAVENS AS A SACRED HORSE.

KANTHAKA, THE BELOVED HORSE WHO AIDED BUDDHA WHEN HE RENOUNCED THE WORLD...

E...EVEN AFTER HIS OWNER DIED...

WE FIND ANOTHER ANIMAL OF NOBLE SOUL...

AND HERE IN MOD-ERN TIMES,

CAN I TOUCH HIS NOSE, TOO?!

WHAT, REAL-LY?!

HACHIKŌ LIVES IN THE HEAVENS NOW, SO YOU CAN PET HIM ALL YOU WANT WHEN WE GO BACK HOME.

IF HE GIVES YOU HIS CONSENT, YES.

HE STILL CAME HERE TO THE STATION TO WAIT FOR HIM EVERY DAY!

OF SUCH AS HACHIKŌ IS THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN!!

JESUS, DON'T TOUCH THAT! HACHIKŌ IS STARTING TO LOOK *REALLY* WELL GROOMED!

HE'S SUCH A GOOD BOY, EVEN ON THE OTHER SHORE.

AFTER HE GOT TO THE HEAVENS, HE QUICKLY BECAME TOP DOG IN GAINING ENLIGHTEN-MENT.

HE REALLY IS A WONDER-FUL ANIMAL.

I KNOW A WELL-TRAINED DOG CAN "STAY" FOR A LONG TIME, BUT COME ON!!

Hurry up and gain enlightenment, master!

HE'S STILL PATIENTLY WAITING FOR HIS MASTER TO BE FREE OF THE WHEEL OF SAMSARA...

マーハーパジャーパティー

SAINT YOUNG MEN

Chapter 36

Shibuya, Here We Come!!

SHIRT: MAHAPRAJAPATI

BUDDHA: SUDDENLY OCCURRED TO HIM, WHY DON'T CELL PHONES AND CALCULATORS HAVE THE SAME KEYBOARD SETUP?

I KNOW THIS IS, LIKE, *THE* PLACE TO MEET UP IN SHIBUYA...

BUT HEY.

HACHIKŌ LIVED ONLY FOR HIS MASTER...

...SO HE DOESN'T CARE MUCH ABOUT ME. THAT'S THE BEST THING ABOUT HIM.

JESUS: WAS A LITTLE SURPRISED TO FIND OUT THAT KUNITACHI (ALSO PRONOUNCED "KOKURITSU," WHICH MEANS NATIONAL) GOT ITS NAME BECAUSE IT'S BETWEEN KOKUBUNJI AND TACHIKAWA.

I WONDER IF TODAY IS A SPECIAL DAY OR SOMETHING...

NO KIDDING.

...BUT THIS PLACE IS REALLY PACKED!

BUT IT'S MORE OF A MEMO THAN A MAP.

YEAH.

IS THAT A MAP ANANDA-KUN DREW FOR YOU?

SHIRT: GOOD SHEPHERD

...YOU THINK HE MEANS THE ONE WITH THE CIRCLE AND THE ONE?

TAKE THE RIGHTHAND ROAD TO THE TOWER OF WORLDLY DESIRES +1.

TO REACH THE VENDOR THAT DEMANDS FEWER ALMS FOR ITS PĀMSŪDA,

UC

DŌGENZAKA

DON'T TELL ME THEY'RE CRUCIFYING SOMEONE AT THE TOP OF DŌGENZAKA HILL?!

GASP

ANANDA TOLD ME THAT SHIBUYA IS *THE* PLACE TO GET PĀMSŪDA...

I HOPE WE CAN FIND THE SHOP.

OH. I BET THERE COULD BE SOME SUPER HEATED DEBATES OVER THAT EXTRA "ONE".

NO, I THINK HE MEANS *THAT.*

JAPAN DERBY

SAY, BUDDHA, DO YOU GET THE FEELING THAT THERE'S A DRESS CODE IN THIS TOWN?

YEAH...

OKAY, I GUESS WE GO THIS WAY...

TRY NOT TO GET SEPARATED.

R-REALLY? YOU THINK WE FIT IN??

DEFINITE-LY. THIS IS NOTHING.

WHAT? NO, WE'RE TOTALLY FINE!!

UH-UHUH. I FEEL VERY OUT OF PLACE...

YEAH, EVERY-ONE IS WEARING SUCH NICE CLOTHES.

IF THAT WERE A SOCCER GAME, YOU'D HAVE GOTTEN RAW EGGS THROWN AT YOU!

That porridge really hit the spot.

BELCH

AFTER I BROKE MY FAST BY EATING THAT MILK-RICE PORRIDGE...

I DON'T FEEL ANY MORE OUT OF PLACE THAN I DID WHEN I WENT BACK TO THE ASCETICS' GROVE...

THE AUTHORITY...ON PICKING CLOTHES ?!

YOU PICK SOMETHING FOR ME.

YOU'RE THE AUTHORITY ON THIS STUFF.

WOW... ARE *ALL* OF THESE PĀMSŪDA ?!

BUT WITH SO MANY OPTIONS, I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT TO BUY...

OPEN

natural

dard

OOHH!!

MINORU AIZAWA (19), HERE TO PICK OUT HIS CLOTHES FOR HIS FIRST DAY OF COLLEGE.

B-

DMP

DON'T TELL ME...HE'S A VINTAGE FASHION GURU...?!

HMM, WELL, IT'S TRUE I DIDN'T KNOW THE FIRST THING ABOUT ANY OF IT.

BUT IT'S MY FIRST OUTFIT ...

HOW DID YOU USED TO CHOOSE CLOTHES WHEN YOU WERE JUST STARTING OUT?

What? But these things are all about feeling what's *right* for you.

HE DOES HAVE A KIND OF AURA...

HIS CLOTHES ARE SIMPLE, BUT HE BALANCES THEM WITH THE OUTLANDISHNESS OF HIS HAIR AND ACCESSORIES ...?

IF I CAN LEARN FROM HIM, MAYBE... MAYBE I CAN CHANGE, TOO!!

YEAH, THAT'S THE ONLY WAY TO GET AN AUTHENTIC "USED" VIBE.

I love that "used" look!!

Nice!!

SO I JUST ASKED TO TRADE CLOTHES WITH SOMEONE I MET ON THE STREET...

OH, YEAH, THAT MAKES SENSE! YOU'D DEFINITELY WANT TO FIND A "NEW YOU."

WELL, I MEAN, THAT WAS MY SPIRITUAL DEBUT, SO...

THAT'S EVEN MORE DARING THAN THE ULTIMATE LAST RESORT... ASKING FOR THE CLOTHES OFF THE MANNEQUIN!!!

SOMETIMES, YOU NEVER FEEL MORE OUT OF PLACE THAN WHEN YOU'RE BACK HOME!

Oh, so that's who you became? Cooool...

Savior (lol)...?

What? But you're Joshy, the carpenter's boy, aren't you?

AND I RAN INTO SOMEONE I KNEW, IT WAS NOT EASY TAKING WHAT THEY HAD TO DISH OUT.

BUT THEN WHEN WE ALL WENT BACK TO MY HOMETOWN LATER,

WHEN FOUNDING A RELIGION, IT'S IMPORTANT TO MAKE AN IMPACT.

SIDDHARTHA.

I DEFINITELY GET THE NEW PERSONA THING. MY HEAVENLY OFFICE MADE ONE FOR ME BEFORE I STARTED MY MINISTRY...

I will make you... ... Fishers of men.

WHEN I MADE MY MINISTRY DEBUT...

...I HADN'T MET ANY OF THOSE PEOPLE BEFORE, SO I ENDED UP MAKING A NEW PERSONA FOR MYSELF...

...THIS IS WHAT WE WERE THINKING FOR YOUR MAKE-OVER.

Theme Color: Gold

Curly hair

Sending to Siddhartha for approval

AND SO...

THIS IS A GOOD EXAMPLE OF KILLING A CHARACTER WITH TOO MANY DETAILS.

We thought of it ...

THE DEVAS WERE RATHER EXCITED LAST NIGHT...

EXACTLY... BUT EVEN THAT AD THERE IS MAKING SOME TRICKY SUGGES-TIONS.

Go for a Layered Look

OKAY, I GET IT. IT'S NEVER A GOOD IDEA TO OVERTHINK THINGS.

...YOU CAN ADD AS MANY BEAUTIFUL LAYERS AS YOU WANT...

"THIS SPRING, GO FOR A LAYERED LOOK"?

And I refuse to have a tongue I can cover my face with!

I will not give up on the high curls!

NO MATTER HOW I STRETCHED MY IMAGINATION, ALL I COULD PICTURE WAS PEOPLE CHASING ME OUT OF THEIR VILLAGES...

It took some deliberation before we settled on my current look.

IT'S PROBABLY BETTER NOT TO HAVE THOSE MEETINGS IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT.

...WILL ALWAYS BE POOP.

マハーパジャーパティー

...BUT IN THE END, THE BOTTOM LAYER FOR ALL OF US...

THAT'S WHAT YOU SAY EVERY TIME A PRETTY GIRL TRIES TO FLIRT WITH YOU!

OH, YEAH.

This Spring
Go for a Layered Look

NO MATTER WHAT YOU USE OR HOW MANY LAYERS, IT'S NOT GOING TO CHANGE.

BECAUSE THE BASIC ARTICLES ARE ALL THE SAME.

WHILE KEEPING INTERNAL ORGANS INSIDE, UNDER THE MUSCLES, HAS BEEN EN VOGUE SINCE THE BIRTH OF HUMAN-KIND.

GIVING A FLASH OF BLUE BLOOD VESSELS UNDER THE SKIN...

WHAT'S WRONG WITH HIM?!

HUH? WHAT ?!

This Spring
Go for a Layered Look

WAH!

...THIS IS WHY YOU CAN'T GET ADVICE FROM EXPERTS! IT'S TOO ADVANCED FOR BEGINNERS LIKE ME TO GET ANYTHING OUT OF IT!!

THOSE ARE SOME REALLY NICE PĀMSŪDA.

NO KIDDING. WHAT KIND OF A CEMETERY DID THEY GET THOSE OUT OF?!

They even had shoes...

WHEW, WE GOT SOME GOOD SHOPPING DONE!

HELLO, EXCUSE ME!

Awww, they're trying to understand my pain...

YEAH, A LOT OF PEOPLE ARE IMPALING THEMSELVES, TOO...

MAYBE THERE ARE ACTUALLY A LOT OF ASCETIC MONKS TRAINING IN THIS TOWN.

WHEN I REALLY LOOK AROUND, I SEE A LOT OF PEOPLE WEARING PĀMSŪDA ...

ASTROL-OGY?

I DO PALMISTRY, PHYSIOG-NOMY, AND ASTROL-OGY...

I CAN TELL THE FUTURE FROM THE MOVEMENT OF THE STARS.

OOHH, PEOPLE REALLY *ARE* TRAINING!!

WHAT ...?

I'M TRAINING TO BE A FORTUNE-TELLER...

WOULD YOU MIND LETTING ME TELL YOUR FUTURES?

HM...?

WAIT A MINUTE, THOSE EARS!

APPARENTLY WE HAD A FORTUNE-TELLER COME OVER WHEN I WAS BORN, TOO...

YOU CAN TELL MY FORTUNE BASED ON MY EARS?

WHAT ...?

THEY'RE GIGANTIC! JUST LIKE THE BUDDHA'S!

THAT WASN'T A FORTUNE SO MUCH AS AN ANNOUNCE-MENT.

...?!

OH, LIKE HOW THE NEW STAR APPEARED, AND THAT FORE-TOLD MY WONDROUS BIRTH.

YOU TWO ARE BEING AWFULLY RUDE TO THE GREAT BUDDHA, YOU KNOW!!

MORE LIKE, ANIMALS LOVE YOU...

N-NO, THEY WOULDN'T MEAN THAT...

DO YOU THINK IT MEANS, "YOU'LL BE A DIVORCEE WHOSE HOME COUNTRY IS DESTROYED"?

I'M NOT SUPPOSED TO MAKE THINGS SOUND TOO GOOD!!

OH NO...!

GASP

NO! HAVING BIG EARS IS VERY LUCKY...

YES, LET ME TAKE A LOOK. MY FORTUNES ARE VERY ACCURATE.

REAL-LY?

WHAT? YOU CAN TELL SOMEONE'S FORTUNE BY LOOK-ING AT THEIR HAND?

WEBBED FINGERS

YOUR TRUTH...

ER... ACTUALLY.

I HAVE TO MAKE THEM NERVOUS SO THEY'LL WANT TO BUY MY "PEACE JAR"...

AHEM...

MY SPECIALTY IS PALM-READING.

SHE'S SPOT ON, BUDDHA!!

Clearance Sale Through the 17th

...! ESPECIALLY THE LIGHTLY PICKLED ONES...!

UM, PERHAPS YOU'RE A GOOD SWIMMER WHO LIKES CUCUMBERS?

I NEED TO PULL MYSELF TOGETHER, AND TRY THE OTHER ONE!

WH...WHAT WAS THAT WEBBING...

THAT'S ALMOST SCARY...!

HOW IN THE WORLD ...?!

ARE IN MORTAL DANGER!!

THOSE YOU CARE ABOUT MOST...

G-GRN-RGH ...!

YOSHI-MOTO OR SHŌ-CHIKU ...

I'VE BEEN WORRIED ABOUT WHICH COMEDY AGENCY I SHOULD CHOOSE...

HE SEEMS LIKE SUCH A NICE GUY.

HE WON'T BE TOO WORRIED ABOUT HIM-SELF...

YOUR TURN. LET ME LOOK AT YOUR FORTUNE ...

HE CLEARLY HAS THE FACE OF A MAN WITH AN UNLUCKY FUTURE.

AH! YES, PLEASE DO!

THOSE I CARE ABOUT MOST... SHE CAN'T MEAN...!!

I SEE IT...

... WHAT ?!

...IS GOING TO DIE OUT?!

ALL OF HUMAN-KIND...

...UH.

WHEN WILL THIS HAPPEN?

THEN ARE YOU GOING TO DIE, TOO, MA'AM?!

...WHAT?

CONSIDERING YOUR CHARITABLE NATURE, THAT *WOULD* BE WHO YOU CARE ABOUT MOST...

BUY A "PEACE JAR" AND YOU'LL HAVE NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT.

END OF THE W...WEEK? WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN TO ME?!

What a relief.

OH, OF COURSE, ARMAGEDDON! SHE *WOULD* BE PASSING ON THEN!

WHEW

JESUS, I THINK SHE MEANS THE END OF THE W—

SO THIS IS ALL NEW AND EXCITING.

WE ALMOST NEVER LEAVE TACHIKAWA,

SHIBUYA IS SO MUCH FUN. ANYTHING CAN HAPPEN, JUST WALKING DOWN THE STREET.

NO, BUDDHA ...

GOOD IDEA. THERE'S A DOUTOR RIGHT THERE...

WHY DON'T WE GO SOME-WHERE FOR A BITE TO EAT?

BUT I'M GETTING KIND OF HUNGRY ...

HEH HEH HEH. I THOUGHT THIS MIGHT HAPPEN ...

IT WOULD BE SO HARD TO ORDER...

I can't do it!

...WHAT? WE COULDN'T! I MEAN, I THINK THAT'S ONE OF THOSE "CAFÉS"!

SINCE WE'RE HERE, LET'S DO THE SHIBUYA THING...

yuicaf

...AND GO TO THAT STYLISH LITTLE PLACE THERE!

HE'S SO CONFIDENT ...!

JANGLE チャカ JANGLE

OOHH ...!

SO I'VE ACTUALLY BEEN PRACTICING IN A CERTAIN PLACE IN TACHIKAWA ...

I'LL HANDLE THE ORDERS!

UH...

WELCOME!

IN THAT CASE, MAYBE I CAN JUST LET HIM TAKE CARE OF IT...

TALL, PLEASE.

I WOULD LIKE TWO CARAMEL MACCHIATOS.

SO I'LL COME BY IN A BIT WITH SOME MENUS.

WE LET YOU CHOOSE YOUR OWN COFFEE BEANS AND CUPS.

OH, I'M VERY SORRY, BUT WE DON'T SERVE THAT HERE!

I-IT WAS JUST, THE OTHER DAY, WHEN I WAS WALKING MY DISCIPLES TO THE TRAIN STATION...

I *TOLD* YOU THAT PLACE IS TOO EXPENSIVE!

AND WHEN HAVE YOU BEEN IN A STARBUCKS ...?

ANDREW TOLD ME I JUST NEEDED TO LEARN THOSE WORDS, AND STARBUCKS WOULD BE NOTHING TO FEAR!

...BUDDHA...

NO, I THINK THAT WAS JAPANESE! JUST BARELY, THOUGH!

I THINK DAD HAS ALREADY BABELED THIS PLACE...

HMM, YEAH, I'M LOOKING AT THIS MENU AND I STILL DON'T HAVE A CLUE...

I wonder what "Perrier" is...

NNGH! I'VE EXHAUSTED ALL MY IDEAS...!

WHAT! HEY!

WAIT! CAN'T YOU AT LEAST ASK HER TELEPATHI-CALLY?!!

Excuse me!

AND I'M WORRIED ABOUT THE PRICES, SO MAKE SURE THAT TOGETHER WE STAY UNDER 3000 YEN*...

ALL RIGHT. WE'LL JUST HAVE TO ASK HER TO EXPLAIN EACH ITEM...

*ABOUT 630

HE REALLY MEANS IT. HE EVEN PRACTICED AT STAR-BUCKS ...

SIGH...

AW, MAN, I WISH I COULD COME INTO THESE PLACES AND ORDER ALL COOL-LIKE...

THANK YOU FOR WAITING!

HUH ...? WHAT IN THE ...?

UH, EXCUSE ME, I...

I WILL SHOW YOU A SECRET BUDDHIST TECHNIQUE ...

WHAT?

VERY WELL THEN.

SHUT

A SECRET TECH-NIQUE?!

NNGH ...!!

NO. THAT WOULD MAKE PEOPLE THINK SHE WAS CRAZY.

G...GOOD POINT. ...O-OKAY...

FOR RELIGIOUS REASONS.

WE CAN'T EAT MEAT OR FISH.

THEN WE'LL TAKE TWO OF THOSE, PLEASE!

AND YOU DON'T HAVE TO HAVE COFFEE. WE SERVE A NICE BROWN RICE TEA...

All mushrooms and wild vegetables.

BAM!

OH!

IN THAT CASE, I RECOMMEND THIS DISH...

...

PIDDLY

AND THEN...

IT MAKES ME WANT TO LEARN THE WAYS OF THE BUDDHA ...

AND THAT, JESUS, IS THE POWER OF BUDDHIST LAW.

THEY TOOK QUITE A LARGE SUM IN OFFER-INGS, TOO.

...DO YOU THINK THIS RESTAURANT IS FASTING FOR RELIGIOUS REASONS ...?

Thank you for waiting.

A short break at the
Tachikawa Doutor before
returning home.

CHAPTER 36 TRANSLATION NOTES

Hachikō,
This famous statue in Shibuya is dedicated to the loyal dog Hachikō, who came to the train station to wait for his master's arrival every day. When his master passed away while at work, and failed to arrive at the station, Hachikō waited, and returned to the station every day at the same time for nine years until his own death. In honor of his faithfulness, he has been immortalized as a bronze statue, which has become a popular spot to meet up with friends for a day in Shibuya.

Mahaprajapati,
This is the name of Siddhartha's maternal aunt, who raised him after Maya (his mother) died. She was also the first Buddhist nun.

The tower of worldly desires +1,
As previously mentioned (see volume 2), the number of worldly desires that exist in the world is 108. Add one to that, and you get 109, which is a number proudly emblazoned on a prominent department store in Shibuya. Jesus's guess is that maybe the note is referring to a different Japanese retail chain, Marui, whose name is written with a circle and a vertical line, followed by another circle and vertical line, represented in their website url with numbers: 0101.

Trading clothes,
After Siddhartha Gautama renounced the world and fled the palace, one of the first things he did was trade away his fine silk robes to a beggar in exchange for the beggar's simple ensemble.

The carpenter's boy,
On a visit back to his hometown, Jesus taught in the synagogue, but the people there wouldn't listen to him, as it stated in Mark 6: Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary, the brother of James, and Joses, and of Juda, and Simon? And are not his sisters here with us? And they were offended at him. To this Jesus replied, “A prophet is not without honour, but in his own country, and among his own kin, and in his own house.”

A good swimmer who likes cucumbers,
Cucumbers are the favorite food of a Japanese folkloric creature known as the kappa. Kappa look something like duck-billed monkeys, and are often depicted with webbed hands and feet because they live in rivers.

Saint Young Men 5

KODANSHA COMICS Digital Edition

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